



# DAILY REPORT

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NAKASONE ANNOUNCES VISIT TO PRC IN MARCH

OW160245 Tokyo KYODO in English 0222 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] Akita Dec 16 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said Friday he plans to visit China in March next year to cement matured Sino-Japanese ties through talks with top Chinese leaders.

Nakasone, speaking to reporters during a campaign stop at Akita, said the Chinese have already agreed to the tentative schedule. If parliamentary business permits, I am thinking of going (to China) maybe in mid or late march, Nakasone said. A detailed itinerary is being negotiated through diplomatic channels, he said.

On the purpose of his planned visit, Nakasone said the trip is aimed at cementing the matured Sino-Japanese relations through [words indistinct] with Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang and other Chinese leaders. Nakasone cited international cooperation, economic cooperation [words indistinct] of a newly set up 21st century Sino-Japanese friendship committee as likely subjects of talks with the Chinese. Japan and China agreed to set up the committee during Chinese Communist Party leader Hu Yaobang's visit to Japan last November.

Nakasone's planned China trip comes between Zhao's scheduled visit to the United States in January and President Ronald Reagan's return visit to China in April. When questioned on the timing on his own trip, Nakasone acknowledged the exchange of visits between Reagan and Zhao was a factor in selecting the March date. "There would be added significance for me to visit China before President Reagan's China trip," he said.

The series of summit meetings among Japan, China and the United States is expected to provide an opportunity for the leaders of the three countries to focus their Soviet policies in addition to a comprehensive review of the triangular Sino-U.S.-Japanese ties, diplomatic analysts said. In Tokyo, Foreign Ministry sources said that the timing of the summit talks have accidentally been arranged in that short span. But the Japanese Foreign Ministry have said that the close tie-up of Japan, the United States and China is favorable for peace and stability in Asia.

On bilateral issues, Nakasone is expected to pledge to provide a second package of yen credits to China during his stay in Beijing. A feasibility study is currently under way on six transport and energy resource projects for which China is requesting Japanese low-interest loans, according to the ministry sources. Japan has provided China with 300 billion yen (1.3 billion dollars) in low-interest government credits in the five years ending 1983 in the first package of government loans. Japanese and Chinese officials will negotiate the second package on the basis of the results of the feasibility study, the sources said. China is reported to have asked Japan to supply 1.4 trillion yen (6 billion dollars) in official development assistance for five years starting Japan's fiscal year 1984. Japan is considering to offer slightly more than 300 billion yen, according to the sources.

GUAM-TOKYO AIR ROUTE BY U.S. CARRIER APPROVED

OW151241 Tokyo KYODO in English 1239 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Tokyo Dec 15 KYODO -- Japan has agreed to allow Continental Airlines of the United States to open a direct Guam-Tokyo flight route Japanese officials said here Thursday.

The agreement came at a three-day meeting in Honolulu that ended Wednesday night (Honolulu time) between Japanese and American Government officials.

In return, the officials said, Japan Air Lines, the national flag carrier, has obtained U.S. permission to load and unload passengers and cargo at Anchorage, Alaska, on its north polar route to Europe. JAL will start the coveted Anchorage service in January with seven two-way flights a week out of its total of 16 weekly flights now in service on the profitable route, they said. Continental can start four weekly flights on a direct Guam-Tokyo route from next January, they said.

PENTAGON CHARGED WITH PRESSING FOR SALE OF FIRM

OW151027 Tokyo KYODO in English 0850 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Tokyo Dec 15 KYODO -- The Pentagon apparently pressured Mitsubishi Chemical Industries America, Inc. to sell to McDonnell Douglas Corp. in August its American Semiconductor Laser subsidiary which the company acquired from Exxon Corp. only 20 months ago, industry sources said Thursday.

A spokesman for Mitsubishi Chemical Industries, Ltd., the parent company, promptly denied emphatically the report that the Pentagon, highly concerned about the outflow of military technologies, exerted such pressures under the U.S. National Security Act. The spokesman said the deal was made on a purely commercial basis.

Mitsubishi Chemical America's subsidiary in question was Optical Information Systems Inc. (OIS), based in the State of New York. According to the spokesman, Morgan Guaranty Trust first approached Mitsubishi Chemical of Tokyo through Mitsubishi Chemical America with an Exxon Corp. offer to sell the optical information-related division, along with its researchers and engineer. In December 1981, Mitsubishi Chemical America acquired OIS for 7 million dollars, he said. Mitsubishi Chemical America sold OIS to McDonnell Douglas for about the same price as Mitsubishi's acquisition price.

A spokesman for Tokyo's Mitsubishi Chemical said OIS was acquired in the expectation that semiconductor laser beams could be applied widely for home and industrial purposes. However, it was found that the use of semiconductor laser is limited to aircraft, both military and commercial, he said. The spokesman said Mitsubishi started talks with McDonnell Douglas last spring to sell OIS. The deal was completed in August.

However, industry sources pointed out that Mitsubishi Chemical America's hasty deal was quite unnatural in the light of normal commercial practice. Also, wide applications of semiconductor laser probably will be found in the future, the sources said.

Industry sources said Kyocera Corp., a major Japanese industrial ceramics maker, has also been forced under the U.S. National Security Act to sell its military equipment parts subsidiary in the United States. The sources said Nippon Steel Corp. agreed with America's Allegheny International Inc. at the end of last April for the acquisition of a 100 percent interest in its superalloy production and sales subsidiary, Special Metals Corp.

But, Allegheny International notified the top steelmaker late June that unavoidable circumstances prevented it from selling out the special metals stock.

As a result, the deal collapsed. The sources presumed that the case also came under the National Security Act category. OIS was apparently another case in this category, the sources said.

COMMANDER OF SOVIET FISHING BOAT FINED

OW160815 Tokyo KYODO in English 0753 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] Sendai Dec 16 KYODO -- The Maritime Safety Office here ordered the skipper of a Soviet fishing boat to pay 500,000 yen (2,200 dollars) Friday for failing to enter records in the log.

The 607-ton Radekhov was the second Soviet fishing vessel to be held by Japanese authorities in two months for fishing violations within Japan's economic zone. The vessel had a permit to fish in the Sea of Japan and Pacific coastal waters but did not record its operations in the log, according to an office spokesman. He said the Radekhov with a crew of 24 is one of 43 Soviet fishing boats currently operating in the Pacific off northern Honshu.

FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL TO CET MORE KAL DEBRIS

OW151257 Tokyo KYODO in English 1251 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Tokyo Dec 15 KYODO -- A Foreign Ministry official will receive more belongings of the victims of the September 1 South Korean airliner downing by the Soviets next Tuesday in Sakhalin. Minoru Tamba, Soviet affairs section chief of the ministry, will leave Otaru port in Hokkaido Monday for Nevel'sk port by patrol boat. This will be the second Soviet delivery of belongings of the victims. The incident killed 269 crew and passengers, including 28 Japanese.

BRIEFS

GRANT AID TO BURMA -- Rangoon Dec 7 KYODO -- Japan will provide Burma with 3.35 billion yen (14.5 million dollars) in grant aid to help it expand food production, according to Japanese officials. The two countries signed and exchanged notes on the agreement in Rangoon Tuesday. Japan's grant assistance to Burma for fiscal 1983 starting last April 1 now comes to 8 billion yen (34.7 million dollars), the officials said. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 0902 GMT 6 Dec 83 OW]

PRIVATE CREDIT TO HUNGARY -- Tokyo Dec 7 KYODO -- The major Japanese trading firms, including Marubeni Corp and Mitsubishi Corp, have signed a contract with the Hungarian Government for a 200 million-dollar private loan, a Marubeni official said Wednesday. The official said the 15-month loan will be financed by the Export-Import Bank of Japan in yen terms, carrying an annual interest of 8.3 percent to be renewed every six months. The loan, the fourth such deal with Hungary, will take the form of suppliers' credit and Marubeni will act as the lead manager, he said. The deal follows a similar agreement with Bulgaria reached last month and is attached with the government export insurance administered by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI). [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 0107 GMT 7 Dec 83 OW]

AID TO SINGAPORE -- Tokyo Dec 7 KYODO -- Japan has agreed to provide a 810 million yen (3.5 million dollars) grant aid to Singapore for productivity improvement, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday. The ministry said the agreement was concluded the same day in Singapore by Japanese Ambassador Hiromu Fukuda and Singapore Acting Labor Minister S. Jayakumar. It said Singapore, which has little natural resources of its own, is trying to promote capital- and technology-intensive industries. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 0948 GMT 7 Dec 83 OW]

VRPR SCORES SPEECHES BY REAGAN, WEINBERGER

SK160110 (Clandestine) Voice of the RPR in Korean to South Korea 1000 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] In this hour, I will talk about the fact that the U.S. imperialists are more undisguisedly revealing their sinister intention to trigger a war through a northward invasion.

At dawn on 14 December, U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger, addressing the Washington Press Club, made rigmaroles on the question of the U.S. defense policy toward North-east Asia. In his speech, he babbled that the U.S. commitment to security and stability in South Korea is everlasting and that U.S. sea and air support is constantly needed.

Prior to this, on 11 December, addressing the 1983 convention of Medal of Honor winners -- those awarded by the U.S. Congress -- war maniac Reagan clamored that America's era of weakness is over and that the United States will do whatever to defend peace and freedom. This nakedly exposes the aggressive nature of the U.S. warmongers. In other words, this is a drivel undisguisedly exposing a sinister intention to realize their wide desire for northward invasion by augmenting the aggressive armed forces in South Korea and by accelerating war preparations under the cloak of so-called freedom and peace.

As you know well, adopting the Korean peninsula as the first object in carrying out their aggressive strategy toward Asia, the U.S. imperialists are resorting to all kinds of maneuvers to achieve their domination over all of the Korean peninsula with South Korea as a stronghold.

As soon as he became President, war maniac Reagan canceled the plan for the withdrawal of the U.S. forces in South Korea. He has increased the combat capabilities of the U.S. troops in South Korea, has handed over countless murderous weapons to the murderous Chon Tu-hwan ring under the pretext of security and the observation of commitment, and has accelerated preparations for a war through northward invasion.

Not content with the deployment of about 1,000 nuclear weapons in this land, the U.S. imperialist aggressors have constantly introduced murderous weapons and have undisguisedly raved about the deployment of neutron bombs and tactical nuclear weapons.

In addition, the U.S. imperialist aggressors held a ceremony, rolling out an updated prototype tank which is claimed to be designed to meet the terrain features of South Korea and they are scheming to mass produce these new-type tanks and 155-mm artillery pieces with U.S. technical support and to deploy them in the field.

It is well known to the world that the Reagan ring [Reagan illdang] is leading the situation to the brink of war, constantly waging war drills, like "Team Spirit," targeting the North.

Nonetheless, the U.S. warmongers have raved about peace and freedom on the Korean peninsula whenever they have opened their mouths. This is a maneuver to justify the augmentation of their armed forces and to hide their scheme to provoke a new war.

Reagan's remarks about the end of America's era of weakness and the supply of updated equipment of the U.S. forces in South Korea are aggressive reigmaroles undisguisedly revealing his intention to make all of the Korean peninsula a U.S. colonial, military base by carrying out northward invasion as he invaded Grenada.

The Reagan ring's clamoring about U.S. commitment to security and stability in South Korea is everlasting is also an absurd remark meaning that it will hold fast to South Korea as its permanent military base and invade the whole of Korean peninsula with it as a stepping-stone.

Historical facts clearly show that, though the U.S. war maniacs have talked about peace or security, their remarks have been downright lies and that they are the ringleader of aggression and war. With no plausible theory can the U.S. imperialists deceive our masses aspiring for independence, democracy, and reunification and justify their maneuvers for aggression and war.

Our masses will never tolerate the U.S. imperialists' maneuvers for a war through northward invasion and valiantly struggle to the end against the maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan ring to provoke a new war.

#### WHITE HOUSE ANTITERRORIST PRECAUTIONS RIDICULED

SK160535 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1521 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Pyongyang December 15 (KCNA) — NODONG SINMUN today carries an article headlined "'White House' Stricken With Terror" in connection with the fact that in Washington Reagan is turning the "White House" into a fortress covered with a forest of bayonets. The author of the article says:

According to the U.S. magazine TIME, ground-to-air missiles were recently installed around the "White House." Their mission is said to "protect" Reagan and the "White House" from "surprise air-raid." The "steps" for "protecting" Reagan and the "White House" were taken in several occasions in less than one month.

One day in November the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation received a letter, which said the government building would be attacked. There was also a phone call threatening that a truck loaded with bombs would be driven into the U.S. State Department. In this connection the U.S. reactionary ruling quarters are now trembling with fear. They had been stricken with fear by the bomb blast in the U.S. Congress on the night of November 7.

The "White House" and the U.S. State Department were placed under strict watch from November 24. Large-size trucks loaded with sand were posted in the approach to the "White House." Outer lamps in the courtyard of the "White House" which were put off at ordinary times are now all put on and patrol policemen are put on round-the-clock alert at every nook and corner. Feeling unassured with this, the U.S. ruling quarters began to build concrete barricades in the approaches to the "White House" from December 3.

At the gates to the "White House" and the State Department 1 metre high concrete barricades were set up to keep trucks from rushing in and 5 metre high barricades were built in the South Gate which is regarded as the vulnerable point.

Reagan who has taken "security steps", terrified by threat of attack from outside, went to length of installing ground-to-air missiles now that he can no longer trust his people. At present the "White House" and the State Department are virtually covered with all sorts of "protection" means from sand bags to missiles. The U.S. imperialists have set up military bases in all parts of the world and deployed latest-type means of war, but never in the history of the United States has there been an instance in which the barricades were set up at the "White House" and even missiles were installed around it.

The Reagan clique is unlikely to feel at rest even a moment because of its criminal acts. He who is guilty is bound to be punished. Reagan can never go scotfree, although he installed even missiles.

MINJU CHOSON CRITICIZES U.S. BUILDUP IN JAPAN

SK151115 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1046 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Pyongyang December 15 (KCNA) -- MINJU CHOSON today, commenting on the announcement of the U.S. Navy that it would drastically increase the number of Sasebo-based submarines, says this shows that the U.S. imperialists are strengthening and developing Sasebo Port of Japan into an operational base for aggression on Korea and Asia. Noting that Sasebo Port has not been converted into a nuclear attack base of the U.S. imperialists for aggression on Korea, the author of the commentary says:

In November Japanese Foreign Minister Abe expressed full support to the call of U.S. aggression warships at Sasebo Port and announced that the Sakibe District of the port which had been returned to Japan would be transferred again to the U.S. imperialist aggression forces.

Sasebo Port has already become a major base of the U.S. Seventh Fleet and a sortie base of the latest type nuclear-powered aircraft carriers Carl Vinson and Enterprise and many other warships of the U.S. imperialists. It has been made known that nearly 250 submarine personnel will arrive at the port next spring.

The recent decision of the U.S. imperialists to increase the number of submarines at Sasebo Base is part of their arms buildup and clearly proves the conversion of the port into a forward base for the "strait blockade operations" of the U.S. imperialists and Japanese reactionaries.

This tells that the moves of the U.S. imperialists and the Japanese militarists to start a new war in Korea have become all the more unscrupulous.

At present the U.S. imperialists scheme to further build up the Naval "Self-Defence Force" of Japan. They transferred an 18,600 ton naval vessel to Japan in October and will do an 8,000 ton vessel next year and a 16,550 ton transport ship to Japan till 1985.

Today the Japanese reactionaries are leaving the land of Japan to the U.S. imperialists as their war base, nuclear base and converting the ground, naval and air "Self-Defence Forces" into attack forces. If the U.S. imperialists and Japanese reactionaries persist in their aggressive arms buildup, they will be dealt a more powerful counter-blow by the people in this region.

LSWK OFFICIAL SUPPORTS MEMORANDUM ON BURMA TRIAL

SK160525 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0000 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Talk by Yi Song-kuk, department chief of the LSWK Central Committee, on the memorandum issued by the DPRK Foreign Ministry in connection with the trial conducted by the Burmese authorities on the Rangoon explosion]

[Text] Through the memorandum issued by the DPRK Foreign Ministry on 12 December, I have come to more clearly understand that the game of trial played by the Burmese authorities against the so-called suspects of the Rangoon explosion was a preposterous, fraudulent drama. Although the Burmese authorities superficially said that they would maintain their dignity in the game of trial, it was a unilateral, unfair one from beginning to end, which was played in accordance with a script written beforehand.

The game of trial played by the Burmese authorities against the so-called suspects of the Rangoon explosion was a farce staged to justify the product of investigation concocted as a result of political collusion between the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries with an aim to preposterously assert that the Rangoon explosion was the result of an act committed by North Korea. As is clearly pointed out in the memorandum, the so-called statements of the suspects, testimonies of witnesses, and evidence which the Burmese authorities presented at court were all concocted. Because of this, even the attorneys selected by the Burmese authorities demanded the dismissal of the case because the trial was held only with the statements of the suspects and without material evidence.

As is known to the world, the DPRK has nothing to do with the Rangoon explosion. This incident was totally the joint product of the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries and the South Korean puppets, showing that the Burmese authorities were inveigled by the anticomunist conspiracy conceived by these rascals. They, however, will never be able to veil the truth by conceiving a conspiracy.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: No matter how vociferously the South Korean reactionaries may raise a fuss by awkwardly conceiving a conspiracy, they will gain nothing.

Tricks are stereotyped methods used by the imperialists and reactionaries. The truth of these tricks are destined to be known with the passage of time. History has shown this eloquently. History has recorded the facts that, at the end of the last century, the U.S. imperialists staged a self-staged drama of bombing their cruiser anchoring at Havana, Cuba, to find an excuse for an aggressive war against Spain, resulting in the rascals' seizure of a large area of territory previously under Spanish control, and that, at the beginning of the 1930's, the Hitler clique launched a large-scale anticomunist offensive to bring the communist party under its control by concocting an arson at the national assembly hall to find an excuse for suppressing communists. When the Japanese imperialists launched an armed attack on the northeast region of China in September 1931, these rascals destroyed the Lugou railway bridge in South Manchuria. They then shirked responsibility for this incident onto the Chinese side, finding an excuse for the armed attack.

The Rangoon explosion shows that, irrespective of age, the method used by the imperialists and reactionaries in seeking their wicked aim through tricks has not changed. Who is the true culprit of the explosion in Rangoon? No doubt, he is the villainous traitor Chon Tu-hwan, the only, ugly human trash and the faithful stooge of the U.S. imperialists. There is a good reason for traitor Chon Tu-hwan to stage such a base, wicked, knavish, and murderous drama as the Rangoon explosion. As is known, the Chon Tu-hwan puppet clique, a group of dirty, colonial stooges of the U.S. imperialists and nation-selling traitors, facing serious political and economic crises and social chaos, is unanimously denounced and rejected by the people at home and abroad. This has made traitor Chon Tu-hwan extremely uneasy and panic-stricken.

Such being the situation, the Chon Tu-hwan ring needed such a shocking incident as the Rangoon explosion so that it could extricate itself from a predicament. By concocting a shocking, conspiratorial incident and by kicking up antirepublic rackets, traitor Chon Tu-hwan is trying to maintain his crumbling fascist military rule through the suppression of the spirit of the anti-U.S., antifascist struggle among the people and through the heightening of tension.

It is not accidental that the Japanese daily SANKEI SHIMBUN said, in an article entitled "The Terrorism and Assassination Attempt of the Military Regime," that the aim of Chon Tu-hwan's quick linkage of the recent terrorism to North Korea is to use this incident as a shield for preventing instability in South Korea.

Traitor Chon Tu-hwan is a cruel, outrageous, and murderous devil and a fascist villain far surpassing those murderous and notorious tyrants of history.

The aim of the ugly anticomunists, antirepublic rackets kicked up by the Chon Tu-hwan puppet clique together with the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries will never be achieved. No matter how eagerly puppet traitor Chon Tu-hwan and his patrons and aggressors try to veil the truth of the Rangoon explosion, distinction between black and white will become clear with the passage of time.

#### USSR EMBASSY IN PYONGYANG MARKS HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

SK131040 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1033 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Pyongyang December 13 (KCNA) -- A cocktail party and a film show were hosted by the Soviet Embassy in Pyongyang on December 12 on day of human rights. Invited there were Pak Yong-si, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, and personages concerned. Soviet Ambassador N. M. Shubnikov and his embassy officials were present.

Speeches were made at the cocktail party. The attendants appreciated a Soviet film.

#### REPORTAGE ON YUGOSLAV PARTY DELEGATION VISIT

Banquet 13 Dec

SK140430 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0412 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Pyongyang December 14 (KCNA) -- The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea arranged a banquet at the Ongnyu Restaurant on the evening of December 13 in honor of the delegation of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia headed by Andrej Marinc, member of the Presidency of the Central Committee of the LCY and president of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Slovenia.

Comrade So Yun-sok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK and chief secretary of the Pyongyang municipal party committee, made a speech at the banquet.

He said: The friendly relations between the two parties and two peoples of Korea and Yugoslavia are priceless because they were personally pioneered and brought into bloom by the great leader of our people Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Josip Broz Tito, the outstanding leader of the Yugoslav people. They are a model of the friendly and cooperative relations between the non-aligned and socialist countries. Today the industrious Yugoslav people, upholding the will of respected Comrade Josip Broz Tito, are registering big successes in their endeavours to firmly defend the sovereignty of the country with united and concerted efforts and accelerate the socialist construction based on autonomy.

In the international relations your league and government are energetically striving, in accordance with the idea of the Non-aligned Movement, against aggression and intervention of imperialism and for the establishment of a new fair international order based on independence and equality and defence of world peace and security.

Head of the delegation Andrej Marinc spoke next. The cooperative relations between Yugoslavia and Korea pioneered by President Josip Broz Tito and Comrade President Kim Il-song have developed favourably, he stated, and went on: Yugoslavia and Korea closely cooperate with each other in the Non-aligned Movement, thus making a contribution to the development of this movement. The Yugoslav people are making efforts to develop cooperation with the Korean people in many fields, economic, cultural, educational, etc.

Warmly supporting the proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo and the ten-point policy of a unified state put forward by the great leader Comrade President Kim Il-song, he expressed the belief that the North and South of Korea will surely be reunified.

The attendants toasted the indestructible, fraternal friendship and unity between our two parties and peoples, the good health and long life of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the good health and long life of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and the good health and long life of the party and state leaders of Yugoslavia including respected Comrade Mika Spiljak, president of the Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and Comrade Dragoslav Markovic, president of the Presidency of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia.

#### Talks With WPK

SK150042 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2256 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Pyongyang December 14 (KCNA) -- Talks between the delegations of the Workers' Party of Korea and the League of Communists of Yugoslavia were held in Pyongyang on December 13 and 14. Present at the talks on our side were Comrade So Yun-sok, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK; Kil Chae-Kyong, alternate member, and vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee; and other personages concerned. Present on the opposite side were the members of the delegation of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia headed by Andrej Marinic, member of the Presidency of the LCY Central Committee and president of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Slovenia, and Yugoslav Ambassador to Korea Ljupco Tavciovski.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

#### Call on Kim Il-song

SK160544 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1529 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Pyongyang December 15 (KCNA) -- The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song on December 15 received the delegation of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia on a visit to our country.

Present on the occasion were the members of the delegation headed by Andrej Marinic, member of the presidency of the LCY Central Committee and President of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Slovenia.

On hand were Comrade Ho Tam, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-premier and foreign minister; Comrade So Yun-sok, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK; and Kil Chae-kyong, alternate member, and vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee. Also present was Ljupco Tavciovski, Yugoslav ambassador to Korea.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song had a talk with the guests in a warm and friendly atmosphere. The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song gave a luncheon for the guests.

#### SOLDIERS' MEETING MARKS YUGOSLAV ARMY DAY

SK150417 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0333 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Pyongyang December 15 (KCNA) -- A soldiers' meeting was held on December 14 at the unit of the Korean People's Army to which Comrade Pak Nam-hyong belongs on the 42nd anniversary of the founding of the People's Army of Yugoslavia.

Invited to the meeting which was attended soldiers of the unit were Military Attaché Radosav Gjorgjevic and an official of the Yugoslav Embassy in Pyongyang. Speeches were exchanged at the meeting.

POLISH PARTY 35TH ANNIVERSARY OBSERVED

Kil Il-song Greets Jaruzelski

SK151552 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1500 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Pyongyang December 15 (KCNA) -- The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, sent a message of greetings on December 15 to Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the founding of the PUWP. The message reads:

On the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the founding of the Polish United Workers' Party I extend warm congratulations to you and through you to the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party and the entire membership of your party on behalf of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and its entire members and on my own behalf.

The founding of the PUWP was an event of weighty development of the revolutionary struggle of the Polish working class and people. After liberation the Polish people under the leadership of your party made big strides forward in the endeavours for liquidating the leftovers of the old society and building a new socialist Poland. Today they are vigorously struggling to bridge over the difficulties created temporarily owing to the subversive manoeuvres and sabotages of the imperialists and the domestic counter-revolutionary forces, to consolidate and develop the socialist system and achieve the nation's security and prosperity under the leadership of the Polish United Workers' Party.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the parties and peoples of our two countries will further strengthen and develop in the common struggle against imperialism and for the victory of the cause of peace and socialism, I wish you and your party new success in the work for the implementation of the decisions.

Parties' Anniversary Marked

SK151104 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1041 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Pyongyang December 15 (KCNA) -- NODONG SINMUN today observes the 65th anniversary of the founding of the Polish Communist Party and the 35th anniversary of the founding of the Polish United Workers' Party. Noting that the founding of the Polish Communist Party and the Polish United Workers' Party was an event of epochal significance in the development of the working class movement in Poland and the history of the revolutionary struggle of her people, the paper says:

From that time the Polish people had their powerful vanguard and covered the road of victory in the working class movement and in the struggle for class and national liberation.

The Polish Communist Party called for the building of the power of the working class and the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat in Poland and roused the working people to the struggle for class and national liberation. The Polish United Workers' Party which emerged at a new stage of the revolutionary struggle and construction work is today leading to victory the Polish people as their united vanguard.

The recent 14th plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party noted that all conditions have been provided for the consolidation of the socialist system, the unity and cohesion of the masses of the people and economic growth.

The Polish people smashed all the manoeuvres of the imperialists and domestic reactionaries, defended the socialist system and triumphantly advanced, overcoming temporary trials and difficulties. All this has been made possible only under the leadership of the Polish United Workers' Party.

Our people believe that the fraternal Polish people will achieve greater successes in their struggle to defend the gains of socialism and implement the decisions of the 9th Congress of the Polish United Workers' Party.

#### SUCCESSES ACHIEVED IN CHEMICAL FIBER PRODUCTION

SK060810 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0800 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Pyongyang, December 6 (KCNA) -- The working people in the field of chemical fibre production of Korea are significantly greeting day of chemical industry (December 6) with great successes in Labour. They increased the chemical fibre production 16 percent in the January-October period as against the corresponding period of last year. The production grew 25 percent in vinalon, 10 percent in rayon and more than two times in movilon.

The material and technical foundations of chemical fibre mills were consolidated and modernized this year. The carbide hearths of the February 8 vinalon complex, a large-scale chemical fibre production base, were remoulded into modernized and telemechanized air-tight ones. The Chongjin chemical fibre mill endeavoured to replace spinning machine with large and high-speed ones so as to increase the revolving speed of the spinning machines by more than 50 revolutions above last year and raised the production capacity of drying machines by more than 50 percent. The equipment of the Sinuiju chemical fibre mill was replenished and reinforced to markedly increase the staple fibre production capacity.

The development of the chemical fibre industry in Korea was made possible because the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song put forward the policy of building a chuch'e-oriented chemical fibre industry and has wisely guided the struggle to implement it. At plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea this year, the great leader stressed the need to completely solve the clothing problem of the people by increasing the chemical fibre production and clearly indicated the orientation and ways to solve the problem by giving on-the-spot guidance to different places.

The working people in the chemical industry are dynamically accelerating the work of increasing the production capacities of the existing chemical fibre mills and the construction of the new vinalon factory. The construction of vinalon factory with a production capacity of 100,000 tons was commenced in the Sunchon area, pillars are being built in major objects [as received] and preparatory projects of roads, railways and gravel selection and mixing ground are progressing apace.

SUPERIORITY OF SOCIALIST SYSTEM EXPOUNDED UPON

SK120430 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0405 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Pyongyang December 12 (KCNA) -- NODONG SINMUN Sunday came out with a signed article headlined "Deep Understanding of Superiority of Socialist System," which reads in part:

The socialist system is the most precious gain of revolution won by people at the cost of their blood and a cradle of happiness providing them with an independent and creative life. What is most important in having a correct understanding of the superiority of the socialist system is to have a correct grasp of the popular and class character of this system fundamentally different from the exploiting system.

The true essence of the socialist system and its popular character lies in strictly guaranteeing chajusong (independence) to the masses of the working people, the master of this society. The socialist system of our country is the most superior one which provides the working masses with an independent and creative life. In strictly guaranteeing chajusong lies the fundamental characteristics and decisive superiority which distinguish the socialist system of our country from all forms of exploiting systems and the capitalist system.

The socialist system of our country is the most superior system throughly defending the chajusong of the working masses, because it is based on the great chuche idea and fully embodies this idea.

What is also important in having a correct understanding of the socialist system of our country is to have a clear knowledge of the course of the solidity and invincibility of this system.

The socialist system is based on an invincible might of the close unity and cohesion of the entire people into one political force: it is a social system under which all people work and live soundly, overflowing with revolutionary enthusiasm and optimism.

The politico-ideological unity of the entire people based on the worker-peasant alliance has reached the highest stage in our country today. The entire people are rallied steel-like around the party Central Committee headed by the great leaders Comrade Kim Il-song and people give full play to the noble trait of placing the interests of society and collectives before their personal interests and working devoutly for the party and the revolution, the fatherland and the people. This is the basis of the solidity and superiority of the socialist system of our country and source of its eternal prosperity.

What is also important in having a correct understanding of the superiority of the socialist system is to be deeply convinced that this system will prosper for ever thanks to the leadership, of the party, the heart of society and its guiding force.

It is thanks to our experienced and tested party that today the socialist system of our country is very strong and its prospect is still brighter. The great leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea is the basic factor of the consolidation and development of our superior socialist system.

JAPAN MAY SEND N. KOREAN DEFECTOR TO THIRD NATION

SK160122 Seoul THE KOREAN TIMES in English 16 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] Tokyo -- The Japanese Government is likely to expel North Korean defector Cpl. Min Hong-ku to a "third" country this year despite his will to seek political asylum in Japan, a Japanese Foreign Ministry official said Thursday (Dec 15). South Korea can be the third country.

He said that Japan will repatriate the North Korean national to a third nation after confirming his will, repeating that Tokyo would not allow him to seek political shelter here. Cpl. Min stealthily entered Japan by a Japanese freighter allegedly to seek political asylum in Japan.

Asked about the name of the third country, he did not elaborate further. He only said that the issue of Cpl. Min's defection should be separated from Pyongyang's "unreasonable" kidnapping of a Japanese ship.

#### Hostage Tactics Viewed

SK151204 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 15 Dec 83 p 2

[Editorial: "Pyongyang's Hostage Tactics -- The Seeking Refuge by Min and Japan's Good-Sense Response to It"]

[Text] It seems that a true picture about Japan's international treatment of humanitarianism will be measured. Having smuggled himself onto a Japanese freighter which was at anchor at a North Korean port, a North Korean soldier sought refuge in Japan. About 1 month later, North Korea detained by force a Japanese freighter and 5 crewmen which had entered a North Korean port, and, it is learned that so long as Japan does not send back the soldier who fled to Japan, North Korea is threatening that if cannot set them free.

Official Japanese circles have not yet given any confirmation or made any comment. But, according to a Japanese news agency, this fact was revealed by a Japanese crewman who is detained in North Korea and who made a report to his head office in Japan in a telephone call by way of Beijing. We cannot but repeatedly watch the Japanese authorities' action with an extraordinary interest.

We say "repeatedly" because: When North Korean Army Staff Sergeant Min Hong-ku fled to Japan on 14 November and expressed his explicit opinion by saying that "I seek refuge because I am discontent with North Korean politics," we stressed at that time that the Japanese authorities should give the humanitarian treatment of respecting Min's opinion in accordance with international practice.

We understand that the ROK Government, too, has conveyed a similar opinion to the Japanese Government.

At that time, on the grounds that there is no law concerning the treatment of exiles, the Japanese authorities, it was said, were studying measures such as:

1. Regarding Min as a person who made an unlawful entry, they would forcibly return him to North Korea;
2. They would banish him to a third country; and
3. Regarding him as a refugee, they would allow him to reside in Japan.

But, in the long run, it was learned that they decided to send him to the ROK. Thus, welcoming the manifested good sense of Japan, we were waiting for the realization of the repatriation of Min.

Some 1 month later, an event has taken place in which North Korea is forcibly detaining a Japanese ship and crewmen and forcibly demanding their exchange for Min. What should obviously be noted is the fact that the case of the seeking of refuge by Min is one thing and North Korea's detention and forcible demand of exchange is quite another. If the Japanese authorities had carried out the repatriation of Min to the ROK in accordance with their decision, this case would have been concluded as a simple case.

No one should or can interfere in Japan's exercise of its sovereignty. In 1976, on the principle of thoroughly respecting his opinion, Japan handled Soviet pilot Belenko, who sought refuge by making an emergency landing in a MIG-25 plane. At that time, the Soviet Union did not take any such measures as detaining Japanese and forcibly demanding an exchange. This was because it is universally established in international society that no one should take such a retaliatory measure.

Obviously, North Korea is committing an internationally unlawful act. North Korea's acts openly insult and infringe upon Japan's sovereignty. If it compromises with such unlawfulness in any way, Japan will insult its own sovereignty. At the same time, Japan will invite words of censure from international society because of its own deeds.

At first, North Korea was detaining a Japanese ship for "violating the order of laws." We do not know what the violation of order of laws specifically means. But, for unknown reasons, North Korea did not lost time in adopting hostage tactics, demanding an exchange of the detained crew for the exile. This is an excessively unreasonable, far-fetched, inhumane, and contemptible act. North Korea's scenario is a very shallow trick in view of the fact that the detained ship belongs to the company from whose ship Min fled.

As we saw in the example of Belenko, we have no doubt at all about the good sense of Japan, which will be faithful to the international promise of "nonrepatriation of exiles." Japan had better cope with North Korea's detention and quibble by taking into account Japan's own sovereignty and international order.

#### PAPER RESUMES DENUNCIATION OF USSR FOR KAL DOWNING

SK160105 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 16 Dec 83 p 4

[Editorial: "ICAO report"]

[Text] Its nightmarish spectrum still lucid in our memory, three and a half months have elapsed since the Soviets brutally shot down a KAL passenger jetliner, Flight 007, on Sept. 1. They continue telling scandalous lies to justify the air massacre which claimed 269 lives. In their obvious belief that time will solve all, they have kept themselves closed or have thwarted international efforts to discover the truth.

The conscience of the civilized world has not been so helpless to such callousness. The International Civil Aviation Organization has recently made public its probe results which brush aside the groundless Soviet allegation. The governing council of the ICAO, in a last-ditch effort, has adopted a resolution urging Moscow to cooperate in investigating the KAL incident for its consideration of a staff report expected next month.

We see no reason for the Soviets to adamantly continue refusing the offer if they have evidence sufficient to underscore their arguments. They may believe the KAL episode would eventually fade away at headline-grabbing incidents continue to occur in close succession nowadays. Nonetheless, it would be difficult for them to evade the blame, however hard they may try.

The ICAO report has already found groundless the Soviet allegation that the KAL jumbo jet was on a spy mission -- the primary excuse under which they ordered a missile-firing fighter to shoot down the KAL aircraft. It also refuted another allegation that the aircraft trespassed into the Soviet air space to cut short the flying distance to save fuel. The report clearly establishes that Soviet pilots did not make adequate efforts to identify the passenger plane. This is a blatant violation of Annex 2 of the Chicago Convention which outlines interception procedures. More importantly, there was no indication that the pilot of the ill-fated aircraft ever knew he was off course or that he was ever aware of any Soviet interception attempt.

The report suggested one hypothesis that the crew programmed the navigational computer with the wrong starting point. But navigation experts are extremely doubtful about such an assumption. All the findings, revealed in the results of the ICAO investigation, are more than enough to point to the Soviet responsibility for the air mishap, whether it be from the perspective of international law and norms or from a humanitarian perspective.

The Soviets must also be condemned for their refusal to cooperate in investigating the KAL incident. It is a grave challenge to the world and, particularly, the authority of the ICAO. Our government has already demanded that the Soviet Union give a satisfactory explanation on the incident and compensate for the loss sustained. The voice of world conscience has rallied behind our demand only to fall on the deaf ear of the Soviets. They have even refused to receive our government's memorandum on the case.

Now that the ICAO has produced its final report that holds the Soviets responsible for the incident, the world community should see to it that they take due actions conforming to international norms and decency of the civilized world. Forcing the Soviets to accept the responsibility for their inexcusable act and to compensate for the loss is an important beginning to preventing a recurrence of such outrageous incidents.

#### NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CLOSES SHORTEST SESSION

SK160217 Seoul YONHAP in English 0211 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 16 (YONHAP) -- The South Korean National Assembly Friday closed its annual 90-day regular session, which because of interruptions turned out to be the shortest period of working days in its history.

The 1983 session was interrupted by the Oct. 2-13 Inter-parliamentary Union conference hosted by the assembly. Additionally, the lawmakers recessed for a few days in the wake of the Oct. 9 North Korean bomb attack in Rangoon, Burma, that killed four key Cabinet ministers. During the session, the nation's first surplus budget bill in history amounting to 11 trillion won (14 billion U.S. dollars) for fiscal 1984 was approved along with 55 other bills.

The assembly settled the long-standing controversy over the revision of the National Assembly law through dialogue between the ruling and opposition parties. Through their negotiations, lawmakers revived the right of the standing committees to deliberate on the budget bill. Fifty-three other agenda items, including 47 laws, were put forward but not acted on.

Meanwhile, an opposition proposal to relieve Culture and Information Minister Yi Chin-hui of his post was voted down Thursday. Before its closure, the assembly dealt with 19 bills, including a special law to crackdown on perpetrators of financial scandals.

HENG SAMRIN'S OPENING SPEECH AT KUFNCD 3D PLENUM

BK160723 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Opening Speech by KPRP Central Committee General Secretary Heng Samrin at 15 December KUFNCD National Council Third Plenum in Phnom Penh -- recorded]

[Text] We open this third plenum of the front's National Council to affirm the new position of our people's growing force of solidarity under the front's banner and to stress three objectives:

1. To confirm that the force of solidarity of our people over the past 5 years has been the factor bringing about the present victories.
2. To sum up activities of the front National Council over the past 5 years.
3. To set forth the tasks of the front for implementation in 1984.

As for the broad significance of the plenum, it is the noble duty and bounden responsibility of all comrade representatives to examine and discuss with a sense of patriotism and unity so as to reach decisions and call on the people to develop the gains of the front and enhance the popular force of solidarity in defense of the national independence and for the construction of the fatherland through the period of transition step by step toward socialism. [applause]

On this most solemn occasion, on behalf of the presidium, I would like to declare the third plenum open. [applause]

PROPAGANDA DIRECTIVES FOR PRK ANNIVERSARY ISSUED

BK151206 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Directives of the Central Propaganda and Education Commission on the activities to be organized to mark Vietnam-Kampuchea solidarity month and the 39th founding anniversary of the VPA]

[Text] In reference to Circular No 361-Sar Ror Mor Chhor [the 30th, 27th, 25th, and 9th consonants of the Khmer alphabet] dated 28 November 1983 of the party Central Committee on cooperation with Vietnam and Laos, the launching of propaganda and diplomatic movements on the occasion of the 5th anniversary of PRK National Day -- 7 January 1979-7 January 1984. To celebrate the Vietnam-Kampuchea solidarity month established by Vietnam, and the 39th founding anniversary of the VPA -- 22 December 1944, the Central Propaganda and Education Commission issued a number of directives to be implemented from now until 15 January 1984 as follows:

I. Significance:

1. To denounce all maneuvers of the Beijing Chinese expansionists in collusion with the U.S. imperialists and their reactionary lackeys in the destruction of revolutions in the three Indochinese countries.
2. The rebirth of the Kampuchean revolution during the past 5 years and the development of revolutions of the three Indochinese countries.

3. The tradition of militant solidarity of the three countries against common enemies and the great cooperation and assistance of the SRV to the cause of the defense and construction of the Kampuchea fatherland.

4. To talk about Vietnam's territory and people, their tradition of struggle, and the development of the VPA.

5. Great deeds of the Vietnamese volunteer troops in the cause of the liberation, defense, and construction of the Kampuchea fatherland.

II. Concrete plan to be implemented:

1. The Kampuchea-Vietnam Friendship Association must send a message to greet the Vietnam-Kampuchea Friendship Association. Various ministries and offices must send greetings messages to SRV ministries and offices which have cooperation agreements with each other. Various provinces and towns throughout the country must send greetings messages to their Vietnamese sister provinces and towns. The significance of these greetings messages is to emphasize the thanks and gratitude of the Kampuchean people to Vietnamese mothers and sisters who sacrificed their children, brothers, and husbands for the cause of the Kampuchean revolution.

2. At the invitation of the Vietnam-Kampuchean Friendship Association, the Kampuchea-Vietnam Friendship Association will send a delegation to attend the Vietnam-Kampuchea solidarity month in the SRV.

3. Various ministries, offices, provinces, and towns throughout the countries, associations, and branches of the Kampuchea-Vietnam Friendship Association must organize meetings and talks with Vietnamese experts. It is necessary to contact groups of experts and Vietnamese volunteer troops in the localities to obtain documents. It is necessary to set up delegations to visit Vietnamese volunteer troops, war invalids, and wounded and sick combatants in treatment in hospitals by giving them souvenir gifts. The Ministry of National Defense must cooperate with the front and the Kampuchea-Vietnam Friendship Association to set up plans for various ministries and offices to visit units of Vietnamese volunteer troops.

4. The Ministry of Information and Culture must add more significance and photographs on Kampuchea-Vietnam friendship ties and the Kampuchea-Vietnam special cooperation. It is necessary to organize presentations of Kampuchean, Vietnamese, and Lao music and songs.

5. The Kampuchea-Vietnam Friendship Association must set up its branches in various ministries, offices, and a number of provinces and towns such as the Ministry of Information and Culture, the Ministry of Trade, the Ministry of Communications and Transport, Siem Reap, Svay Rieng Provinces, Kompong Som Municipality and so on, in order to mark the 7 January National Day and to celebrate this solidarity month.

6. On the occasion of the 39th founding anniversary of the VPA -- 22 December 1944 -- the KUFNCD National Council must cooperate with the Ministry of National Defense to organize mass meetings to celebrate this event.

7. The KUFNCD National Council, the Ministry of Information and Culture, and various ministries and offices must assist the Kampuchea-Vietnam Friendship Association to organize well activities on that occasion. The front, cultural offices, and military commander groups of various provinces and towns must cooperate with various other departments in provinces and towns to organize well activities of the Vietnam-Kampuchea friendship month.

8. Various ministries and offices which have cooperation agreements with Vietnam must sum up their activities and set up plans to better implement these cooperation programs.

9. SPK, the radio, and newspapers must have programs and articles on the significance of Vietnam-Kampuchea friendship month. The radio must have artistic songs and musical programs to mark Vietnam-Kampuchea friendship month linked with the celebration of the 7 January National Day. It is necessary to successively and widely report all activities of the Vietnamese people during the Vietnam-Kampuchea friendship month.

#### 10. Slogans

Apart from slogans issued in decision No 135 Sar Ror Mor Chhor of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee for marking the 7 January National Day, it is necessary to add the following slogans:

"Always be grateful for the special and great assistance of fraternal Vietnamese party, government, people and Vietnamese volunteer troops," "Vigorously acclaim the 39th founding anniversary of the VPA," "To acclaim the Vietnam-Kampuchea friendship month."

The Central Propaganda and Education Commission is confident that the various ministries, offices, provinces and towns throughout the country, which will implement these above-mentioned directives, will receive good results.

Phnom Penh, 13 December 1983

[Signed] Vice Chairman Men Saman, for the Central Propaganda and Education Commission

#### MINISTER BOU THANG INSPECTS DISTRICT IN KANDAL

BK140250 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] A high-ranking delegation of the Defense Ministry led by Comrade Bou Thang, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of national defense, visited the authorities, armed forces and people in S'ang District, Kandal Province, on the morning of 11 December. The delegation was composed of Comrade Soy Keo, member of the party Central Committee, deputy minister of national defense, and chief of the General Staff; Comrade Meas Kroch, deputy minister of national defense and chief of the General Political Department; Comrade Yem Yan, vice chairman of the Kandal Provincial People's Revolutionary Committee; and many other chiefs and deputy chiefs of various departments under the Defense Ministry.

In order to seek information on the development and achievements scored in the district during the past 5 years, the delegation met and had a joyful and intimate conversation with Comrade (Soy Saom), chairman of the S'ang District People's Revolutionary Committee, cadres, combatants, and personnel from various offices in the district. The delegation also visited and presented gifts to the authorities, militiamen, and people in Phum (Kaoh Khel) where it was warmly and joyfully welcomed.

During these visits and conversations, Comrade Bou Thang spoke on the progress made in all fields by the Kampuchean revolution during the past 5 years. He said that this success was attributable to the joint efforts made by cadres, combatants, personnel, workers, and people throughout the country who have united as one under the correct leadership of the KPRP, and to the moral and material assistance given by the fraternal socialist countries, particularly Vietnam, Laos, and the Soviet Union. This was also partly thanks to the efforts of the authorities, armed forces, and people in S'ang district.

At the same time, the comrade exposed the enemy's perfidious maneuvers aimed at sabotaging the advance of our revolution. He added, however, that these perfidious maneuvers were frustrated by our armed forces and people and that our revolution has always advanced firmly.

On the same occasion, the comrade head of the delegation exhorted cadres, combatants, personnel, and people in the district to enhance their sense of revolutionary vigilance for the defense of the revolution. They gains and firmly maintain a spirit of national unity and internationalist solidarity. At the same time, they should pay attention to the production drive in order to improve their living conditions, manage and control the economy with a sense of thrift and creative ingenuity, correctly organize the purchase of grain, and do their best to sell goods to the people in order to contribute to improving the people's livelihood.

On behalf of cadres, combatants, personnel, and people in S'ang District, Comrade (Soy Saom) expressed profound thanks to the delegation for sparing time to visit cadres, combatants, personnel, and people in S'ang District. He said that this was proof of the Defense Ministry's attention to the local combatants and people.

#### LEADERS GREET PDRY ON INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY

BK020715 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1132 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] Phnom Penh SPS December 1 -- Heng Samrin, general secretary of the PRPK Central Committee and president of the PRK Council of State, has sent his greetings to "Ali Nasir Muhammad, general secretary of the Socialist Party of Yemen, and president of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council and prime minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, on the republic's 16th Independence day.

He says: "We rejoice at the steady progress of the Yemeni people over the past years of national defence and construction, particularly in implementing the resolutions of the First Congress and the Extraordinary Congress of the S.P.Y., progress which has largely contributed to peace, stability and social progress in that region and elsewhere.

"We profoundly thank the S.P.Y. and the government and the people of the P.D.R.Y. for their constant support for the revolutionary cause of the Kampuchean people. May the traditional friendship, military solidarity and multiform cooperation between our parties, governments and peoples strengthen and develop incessantly."

Foreign Minister Hun Sen has also greeted his Yemeni counterpart, 'Abd al-'Aziz Addali on this occasion.

LPRP, CPSU DELEGATIONS HOLD TALKS IN VIENTIANE

BK151402 Vientiane KPL in English 0901 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Vientiane, December 15 (KPL) -- Talks between delegations of the LPRP and the CPSU were held here yesterday. The Lao side was headed by Thongsavat Khaikhamphithoun, member of the party CC, head of the party CC's office, and on the Soviet side was Kristoradnov, member of the CPSU CC, first secretary of Gorkiy Party Committee of the CPSU.

Issues on the organizing work and the expansion of party membership and those on measures and procedures of close cooperation between the two parties were raised during the talks.

Chonia Valter, counselor of Soviet Embassy to the Lao PDR, was also present on the occasion.

FEDERATION OF LAO TRADE UNIONS HOLDS FIRST CONGRESSForeign Delegations Arrive

BK141328 Vientiane KPL in English 0936 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Vientiane, December 14 (OANA-KPL) -- All the foreign delegations which are to attend the First Congress of the Federation of the Lao Trade Union which was opened here today, arrived in Vientiane on December 13.

The delegations arrived here on December 13 were:

- The delegation of Bulgarian Trade Union led by Zhelyu Miluchey, alternate member of the Communist Party of Bulgaria CC and member of the Bulgarian Trade Union.
- The delegation of the Trade Union of the USSR led by Matskyavichyus, member of the Secretariat of the Trade Union of the USSR.
- The delegation of central workers organism led by its member of the Executive Committee, Alfredo Mordes.
- The delegation of the Trade Union of Mongolia led by its vice president, Dashdorje.
- The delegation of the Free Trade Union of Germany led by Hans Bahle, member of the presidency of the federation of the Free German Trade Union.
- The delegation of the Trade Union of Hungary led by its vice-chairman, Laszlo Ligeti.
- The delegation of the Trade Union of Czechoslovakia led by Oldrich Bogner, president of the Mining Trade Union. And the delegation of the Trade Union of Poland led by Stefan Kosyasy, president of the Mining Trade Union.

**Meetings With Kaysone Phomvihan**

BK141435 Vientiane KPL in English 0919 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Vientiane, Dec 14 (OANA/KPL) -- The general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers, Kaysone Phomvihan, received here on Dec 13, delegations of the trade union from friendly countries which are to attend the First General Congress of the Federation of the Lao Trade Unions [FLTU] which was opened here today.

Among the delegation which met the Lao party general secretary were the delegations of the federation of trade unions from Vietnam, Kampuchea, the USSR, Cuba, Mongolia, Bulgaria, Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia and Poland.

K. Phomvihan, on the behalf of the LPRP and the Government of the LPDR congratulated all the delegations which arrived here to attend the First General Congress of the FLTU. The general secretary qualified the visit as the manifestation of friendship and solidarity to the entire Lao people on the basis of Marxism-Leninism. He then stressed on the importance and significance of the general [as received] of the FLTU and said that the participation of the delegations from the socialist countries is very precious for the FLTU.

K. Phomvihan also recapitulated the history and growth of the Lao working class to the guests by stressing on the active contribution to the anti-colonialist and anti-imperialist struggle for the liberation of the countries.

He also gave emphasis on the reinforcement of the solidarity among the workers and laborious peoples of all the countries and particularly among the socialist countries in view to efficiently struggle for the world peace and the development of each nation.

**Congress Convened 14 Dec**

BK141627 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Excerpt] The First National Trade Union Congress of Laos was convened in the capital of Vientiane on the morning of 14 December.

It was attended by 187 full members of the Lao Trade Union Federation, including 17 women, 14 Mong tribal people, and 16 Lao Theung tribal people. The oldest delegate is 62 years old and the youngest is 27 years old. Some 124 members of the LPRP from factories, plants, hospitals, agricultural settlements, offices, organizations, and all areas and provinces throughout the country attended the congress. They are outstanding representatives of the Lao trade union movement and of 50,000 Lao unionists.

Present on the presidium were Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers; Souphanouvong, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, president of the LPDR, and chairman of the Supreme People's Council and of the Lao Front for National Construction Central Committee; Nouhak Phoumsavan, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and first vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; General Khamtai Siphandon, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of national defense, and commander in chief of the LPA; Sisomphon Lovansai, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Supreme People's Council; secretaries of the party Central Committee; representatives of trade unions and women's and youth unions; the head of the delegation of the World Federation of Trade Unions; and the heads of the trade union delegations of the SRV, the Soviet Union, the PRK, the MPR, the Hungarian People's Republic, the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Republic of Cuba, the GDR, the Polish People's Republic, and the CSSR.

Also attending the historic opening ceremony were members and alternate members of the party Central Committee, ministers, deputy ministers, representatives of heroes, and many guests. Diplomats of fraternal socialist countries also attended the ceremony.

#### Kaysone Phomvihan Speech

BK141439 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0157 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Speech by Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee, delivered at the opening ceremony of first Lao National Trade Union Congress in Vientiane on 14 December -- live]

[Text] Dear comrades: Today, I am very pleased to attend a national congress of our Lao trade unions -- the first national congress ever held since the founding of the unions. On behalf of the party Central Committee and the Council of Ministers, I would like to wholeheartedly salute and welcome comrade representatives from all over the country to this historic trade union congress. [applause]

On this occasion, I would like to extend warm greetings and the wholehearted commendation of the party Central Committee and the government to the working class and laboring of various tribes throughout the country who have scored great achievements in the revolutionary cause of our nation. [applause] I would like to wholeheartedly salute and welcome the WFTU delegation and the trade union delegations of various fraternal socialist countries which have brought the profound friendship, close solidarity, and vigorous encouragement of the working class and trade union movements of the world to our Lao working class and laboring people. [applause]

Your historic congress marks a significant event in the political life of our nation. It clearly proves the growth and development, both quantitative and qualitative, of the working class and trade union movements of Laos. The purposes of your congress on this occasion are not only to comprehensively review the situation on the movements of workers and state employees and the activities of the trade unions in the past, but to appropriately adopt the direction and duties for the trade unions to fulfill in the next stage in the implementation of the resolution of the third congress of our party.

Dear comrades, in the late 19th century, the French colonialists began to invade and occupy our country. After World War I, which lasted from 1914-18, they stepped up investment in the exploitation of raw materials and brought their goods to sell in our country. A number of other aliens also invested in capitalist businesses. Our Lao working class then gradually began to appear. When the U.S. imperialists staged intervention and aggression in our country, replacing the French colonialists, they implemented their neocolonialism in the areas they temporarily controlled.

As a result, the capitalist economy was developed in the two domains of capitalist production and business. During that period, the number of workers in those areas, including a number of alien workers, increased to the tens of thousands. Simultaneously, the revolutionary movements of our Lao people were vigorously expanded. Vast liberated areas were set up as one state with various enterprise establishments in the industrial, trade, communications, transport, cultural, educational, and public health fields. This played an important role in the national salvation struggle and the improvement of the living conditions of the people. Thousands of workers in the liberated areas at that time positively contributed to all domains of revolutionary work.

In short, as of this date, the Lao workers have clearly become a class of people with their own vanguard, namely the LPRP, which has pursued the cause of the Indochinese Communist Party.

Since the complete liberation of the whole country and the establishment of the LPDR on 2 December 1975, our state has nationalized a number of important enterprises of private and reactionary capitalists and comprador capitalists. At the same time, our state has set up its economic elements in the industrial, transport, trade, agricultural, and forestry branches and turned a number of private factories, plants, and enterprises into state-private enterprises. A number of other private factories have continued to carry out their operations under the guidance of the state plan. At present, along with the economic restoration and construction and the cultural development, our Lao working class has rapidly developed and served as a leading force in the cause of socialist transformation and construction.

Beloved comrades, even though the working class in our country has just grown up, it possesses the tradition of heroic fighting. At the beginning of the 20th century, Lao workers automatically rose up to fight in various forms to oppose the notorious and barbarous exploitation, repression, and suppression of the French capitalist colonialists. For example, workers at the Phontiou tin mine and the Vientiane Electricity plant; workers who constructed Route No 9; and workers who were crew members of ferry boats that transported goods from Champassak to Vientiane and Luang Prabang struggled for fewer working hours and higher wages and to protest against physical abuse by their masters and capitalists.

Since 1930, thanks to the leadership of the Indochinese Communist Party in the past and the LPRP at present, the struggle movements of our workers have gained a new dimension of quality characterized by a sense of national and class awareness and clear-cut organizational and political objectives. These struggle movements have fought not only for legitimate economic interests and democratic freedoms, but also against the repression and occupation of the French colonialists and the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their henchmen to liberate and build Laos into a socialist country.

In the simultaneous uprising staged by our people in all localities throughout the country in 1975 to seize administrative power, Lao workers in many large and small cities acted as the primary force in guarding factories and resisting enemies who were trying to dismantle factory facilities. They also prevented factory owners from persuading technicians to flee with them, wrestled back their right to mastership, managed the factories by themselves, and ensured the smooth functioning of all factories. As a result, electricity and the water supply was not cut off. That development resulted in a strong position and important conditions for the state to rapidly normalize the situation in the country.

Over the past 8 years, the Lao working class has further enhanced their leading role in carrying out the struggle to defend the country and transform and build socialism. It has become a decisive force in building material and technical foundations and safeguarding security for the economic foundations of our state. Even though the enemies have tried in every way to constantly sabotage our country and despite numerous prevailing difficulties, the working class and laboring people in our country have continued to further enhance their tradition of revolutionary heroism. By working with a sense of creativity and with assistance from the Soviet Union, Vietnam, and other fraternal socialist countries, we have managed to score numerous great achievements in building material and technical foundations. For instance, we have reactivated and built a number of industrial foundations; built a network of land transport routes, oil pipelines, and warehouses at river landings and airports; set up a long-distance transport service and a border transit transport service; established a number of irrigation facilities, agricultural settlements, forestry research; brought in several thousand machines for agricultural production; built more hospitals, schools, offices, and public address systems; and restored the operation of several district and provincial municipalities destroyed during the war.

It can be said that the Lao working class has rapidly grown up both quantitatively and qualitatively and has made many great and significant contributions to the revolutionary struggle of our party and people. We are very proud of the Lao working class. On this occasion, I would like to extend my wholehearted congratulations and salutations to the Lao working class and laboring people for having scored glorious achievements and maintaining good virtue. [applause]

Beloved comrades, even though it was born amid the protracted, arduous, ferocious, and uncompromising struggle for national and class liberation, the Lao working class, though still young, is blessed with many special characteristics of the international working class. For example, it possesses the leading role in the struggle; it is faithful to revolutionary ideals; it possesses a sense of thorough revolutionary struggle; it has maintained a strict sense toward organization and discipline; it loves the classes; it is truly patriotic; and it possesses a clear sense of proletariat internationalism.

The reason the Lao working class possesses such special characteristics is because it has inherited and further enhanced the time-honored tradition of patriotism and struggle against external aggression. Since its inception, the Lao working class has been illuminated by the beacon of Marxism-Leninism and has been correctly guided by its leading party -- the LPRP -- which is a genuine Marxist-Leninist party. Another important factor is that the Lao working class has closely united with the Vietnamese and Kampuchean working classes and peoples, who have shared the same destiny in fighting common enemies for the same ideals.

Throughout the evolution of its struggle, the Lao working class has constantly received support and assistance from the Soviet working class and people and the fraternal socialist countries as well as from the international working class. [applause]

Beloved comrades, parallel to the growth of the working class, the Lao trade union movement has also advanced along the path of glorious history. Under the leadership of the Indochinese Communist Party, some trade union activities were formulated among the workers movements, such as the mutual assistance unit of waterways transport workers, the trade union of the Vientiane electricity plant, and the trade union of workers at the Phontiou tin mine. In 1956, trade union organizations were also formulated in the liberated zone of the patriotic forces. In 1966, the party Central Committee officially adopted a resolution to set up the Organization of Lao Trade Unions. After the complete liberation of the country, the Lao trade union organization was extensively developed with a network linking the central and grassroots levels.

Since its founding, the Lao trade unions have been gradually consolidated to firmly develop political, ideological, and organizational unification and to carry out movements to fulfill the revolutionary targets outlined by the party in each period. In the recent past, various forms of activities of the Lao trade unions have been developed to encourage emulation campaigns and to develop initiatives in production, in working, and in improving the living conditions of workers and state employees, thereby earnestly contributing to the triumphant realization of the state plan.

On the occasion of the opening of the first historic national congress of the Federation of Lao Trade Unions [FLTU], I would like to wholeheartedly salute and hail the trade union organizations at all levels and all members of the Lao trade unions for positively carrying out their roles, thus contributing to the victories of our revolution. [applause]

Beloved comrades, at present our country has entered a new period of the revolution -- the period of directly advancing toward socialism by bypassing the period of capitalist development -- in fulfilling the two strategic tasks of defending the country and building socialism. Our third party congress held last year outlined the overall orientation for the period of bypassing capitalist development toward socialism in the country, and the primary contents are as follows:

To strengthen the dictatorship of the proletariat; to enhance the right to collective mastership of the laboring people; to simultaneously carry out the three revolutions; to use agricultural and forestry development as the foundation for industrial development; to use the socialist industrial transformation as the central duty of the bypassing period so as to transform our country into a country with developed agriculture, forestry, and industry; and to build a plentiful and happy life for the people of all tribes.

To victoriously implement the above-mentioned revolutionary line of the party, the trade union at all levels and all workers and state employees must appreciate the major attitudes of our party, such as the attitude on the struggle between our side and the enemy and between the two paths -- socialism and capitalism; the attitude on the relation between production and goods distribution and circulation; and the attitude on economic relations with foreign countries.

In the new period of the revolution, the working class has been entrusted with a historical task. It is the leading class in carrying out the socialist industrial transformation and the socialist construction.

To fulfill this historical task, the working class must be ahead in carrying out the three revolutions and enhancing the role of collective mastership of the working class and laboring people.

Being the owners of socialist collective mastership is the true nature of the working class, which is a class that symbolizes progressive production for the new regime. Being the owners of collective mastership is also the goal and the lever of the entire socialist revolution. It has become a great strength for carrying out the two strategic tasks -- to defend the country and to victoriously build socialism. The right to collective mastership of the working class includes political, cultural, and social mastership. The working class has exercised their right to collective mastership primarily through the state and the trade unions, which are under the party leadership.

Being the owners of collective mastership through the state means that the working class possesses all social labor forces, national resources, machines, equipment, energy sources, capital, and the highest administrative organization -- the state itself -- for organizing production, managing the foundations of the national economy, and distributing material and cultural wealth.

Being the owners of collective mastership through the trade unions means that the working class has used its mass organization in exercising the right to inspect, follow up, and supervise the implementation of the work systems and policies of the state so as to protect its legitimate interests and to contribute organized views to exercising the right to participate in managing the economy, the state, and society. This is the right to collective mastership throughout the country.

The mastership, which appears more obvious and genuinely practical, exists at the foundation level. At this level, workers and state employees have the right to participate directly in all production activities and in the distribution of the material and cultural wealth of their enterprises, offices, and organizations. If the right to collective mastership of the working class is thoroughly exercised, it will play a more useful and decisive role in labor emulation campaigns, production campaigns, and campaigns to practice thrift in order to build and develop the economy. That is why the working class must act as a model for and persuade the laboring people to engage in the production and construction front, to effectively fulfill the industrial production plan, and to earnestly serve agricultural production. Workers and state employees who are the owners of socialist mastership must, first of all, love to work, work diligently and enthusiastically with a sense of awareness toward organization and discipline, carry out work which corresponds with their responsibilities, effectively execute the tasks entrusted to them, maintain a sense of thrift, and protect socialist property. They must constantly engage in education with a view to incessantly raising their political, cultural, scientific, and technical standards as well as specialized knowledge so as to become the owners of collective mastership in the scientific and technical field as well. They must resist temptations to become lazy, sloppy, unreliable, and whimsical; to disregard organization and discipline; and to steal socialist property.

In production and construction enterprises, workers and state employees must express their sense of collective mastership by closely associating themselves with their enterprises. They must regard the enterprises as their home and themselves as homeowners. They must take charge of managing the enterprises; care for, maintain, and utilize machines and other facilities to the fullest capacity; use material supplies, energy, and funds with a sense of thrift; make profits for the enterprises; and strictly implement the system of handing over all products and revenue to the state. They must resist the attitude of working only for wages or of serving without a sense of responsibility and attention to determine whether the production plan has been fulfilled. In the units attached to the goods-distribution and circulation service, workers and state employees must express their sense of collective mastership by effectively carrying out work in purchasing, transporting, and storing goods; by correctly carrying out distribution in accordance with the policy and the designated targets and proportion; by thoroughly and distinctively weighing, measuring, and counting goods; by efficiently serving production and the people's living conditions; by resisting all acts of irresponsibility such as neglecting goods to the point that they become rotten, lost, or inferior, and stealing or siphoning off state goods for one's own consumption.

In administrative and academic organizations, workers and state employees must express their sense of collective mastership by carrying out work in accordance with its system and their own abilities, by efficiently fulfilling projects and programs of work with high quality, by developing a high sense of awareness in serving the people and production, and by resisting irresponsible and unorganized attitudes such as working unattentively and incompetently, or working without initiative or an analytical mind.

Beloved comrades, the working class and laboring people are now the masters of their own country and society. Workers are also members of the proletariat regime. As a result, the roles and responsibilities of the trade unions must develop to a new stage as follows: The first role is to endeavor to mobilize, gather, organize, and educate workers and state employees in all respects, aimed at realizing the party's socialist revolutionary line and the state plan. The second role is to mobilize workers and state employees to participate in managing enterprises, offices, and organizations, and to represent them in the management of the economy, the state, and the society. The third role is to inspect, follow up on, and supervise the implementation of the work systems and policies of the state, and to pay close attention to safeguarding the just interests and living conditions of the workers and state employees.

Relying on their roles and responsibilities, the trade unions at all levels must clearly define their tasks in detail for each period with a view to further enhancing and developing the leading role of the working class in implementing the party's line in the new period of the revolution.

The basic tasks of trade unions are as follows:

1. Pay attention to educating and training workers and state employees. This is considered the first priority of the trade unions. It is aimed at building the socialist workers and state employees into people who maintain class and socialist awareness; a sense of active and effective labor; a sense of cherishing and protecting socialist property; a sense toward organization and discipline; and a high level of political, cultural, and technical understanding, professional experiences, and a simple way of living. It is also aimed at building socialist workers and state employees into people who lead their lives and work in accordance with the fine virtues which espouse one for all and all for one. We must clearly understand that our working class has now developed quantitatively.

However, it is a class of people which has just appeared. This is why, along with the good points of the working class, there remain vestiges of other classes. Therefore, the trade unions must attach special importance to educational and training work. They must change the belief that the trade union lifestyle is not very useful and that in political and ideological training, the contents on propaganda activities and on education and training are not useful to the promotion and expansion of positive factors in the struggle to restrict and eliminate capitulationist practices which run counter to the virtues of socialist workers and state employees.

2. Emulation movements must be encouraged and regularly organized among the workers and state employees. The revolutionary movements now carried out by the workers and state employees are the socialist emulation movements. They serve as a decisive role in translating into reality the economic and cultural construction and development plan of our state.

Therefore, it is necessary for the trade unions at various levels to consider as their main and regular task the encouragement and arrangements for labor emulation campaigns to carry out production, practice thrift, and achieve the objectives of the state plan. They must settle and do away with the situation of organizing an emulation only in form and without any concrete economic and technical contents. The trade unions at various levels must appropriately adopt the measures for the persuasion and motivation work for the emulation campaigns in conformity with the specific points of circumstances in each locality and each period of time. This is in order to transform the management of enterprises, improve techniques, and build new, socialist men. This is the concrete content of the revolution on production relations, the technical and scientific revolution, and the cultural and ideological revolution. This content can be successfully implemented by the trade unions in accordance with their respective roles and responsibilities.

Emulation is a way for the workers and state employees to take part in the management and implementation of the rights to collective mastery. In the persuasion work for the emulation, the trade unions must pay attention to persuading and motivating the workers and state employees to guarantee the implementation of labor regulations and discipline, promote and expand initiatives, become appropriately organized to carry out production, and improve management techniques. At the same time, the workers and state employees must be organized to express views on ways and means to settle problems in order to successfully fulfill and exceed expected objectives and figures in the plans of each unit. This is concrete participation in management.

The trade unions at various levels must educate and train the workers and state employees to organize emulation campaigns in serving agricultural and forestry work with a view to successfully fulfilling the production plan and various tasks so as to meet the requirements in agricultural production and intensive cultivation in a timely manner. This is because the transformation and expansion of the agricultural and forestry work is presently a main task of our entire party and people. It is the task for both classes -- the proletarian and the peasant classes.

By organizing the workers and state employees to carry out the emulation campaigns to serve agriculture, the trade unions make a positive and concrete contribution to the agricultural transformation and expansion. By so doing, they further strengthen the worker-peasant alliance in the new stage of revolution.

3. The trade unions must educate workers and state employees to clearly understand the struggle between us and the enemies and between the two paths -- socialism and capitalism. The struggle between the socialist and capitalist paths in our country is currently developing fiercely, uncompromisingly and in a complicated way. This struggle is closely linked to our people's struggle against the all-sided sabotage war waged by the Beijing big-nation expansionists and hegemonists in collusion with the U.S. imperialists and other reactionary forces to oppose the Lao revolution. That is why the trade unions must constantly educate workers and state employees to clearly understand the enemy's notorious and cunning designs and to heighten a sense of vigilance against sabotage schemes of the enemies. The trade unions must also mobilize them to participate in all activities to contribute to maintaining political tranquillity and social security and to defending socialism and the dictatorship of the proletariat.

4. The trade unions must constantly organize the improvement of the living conditions of workers and state employees. At present, the living conditions of the laboring people, especially workers and state employees, are plagued with numerous difficulties caused by the prevailing inferior foundations of our economy and the sabotage attempts of the enemies in many fields. Therefore, the current duty of the trade unions in looking after the well-being of the workers and state employees is to encourage them to clearly understand that only by boosting production and improving the quality and efficiency of work will they be able to create conditions under which their living conditions can be improved.

The most fundamental interest of workers and state employees is to implement strictly and correctly the policies on goods distribution and circulation and on the management of the socialist economy outlined by the party and state. On this basis, their collective mastership role in production and distribution will be further developed and enhanced; all private interests will be linked to the state and collective interests. The trade unions must pay special attention to opposing the situations which will lead to discouragement in production and in the implementation of the systems and policies on goods distribution and circulation.

5. The trade unions must correctly implement the party's foreign policy. The Lao working class is part of the international working class. The duty of the Lao trade unions in foreign affairs is to positively contribute to the world workers movements in struggling for peace, national independence, democracy, and socialism. They must educate workers and state employees to clearly understand that our close solidarity and all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, particularly our special solidarity and militant alliance and all-round cooperation with Vietnam and Kampuchea, constitute a decisive factor in all victories of the revolution in our country. This is correctly in line with the party's policies and plans and the state plan.

Beloved comrades, to translate the aforementioned tasks into reality, it is necessary to urgently consolidate and build the organization and heighten the capability of the whole trade union organization in carrying out activities. First, it is necessary to attentively consolidate, build, and strengthen trade unions at the grassroots so as to genuinely turn all activities of trade unions into those of the masses.

One important issue is that close attention must be paid to building and nurturing the ranks of cadres in order to respond to the requirements of the masses' revolutionary movements and to supply cadres selected from such movements to the party and state. At the same time, we must positively rectify work procedures and style and resolutely oppose bureaucracy and acts of disassociation from the people.

Trade unions must take the initiative in coordinating with the various state and mass organizations. State organizations must create conditions for trade unions to carry out their activities and must join trade unions in organizing workers and state employees to take part in formulating state plans from the grassroots upward. Attention must be paid to studying various views submitted by trade unions for formulating and implementing state plans, procedures, and policies.

Other mass organizations must attentively coordinate with trade unions to jointly implement the various plans, policies, and tasks entrusted by the party and state. They must avoid a situation where one obstructs other people's work and where there is a lack of mutual support and assistance.

As I have already said, trade unions are part of the proletarian dictatorship system led by the party. Therefore, in carrying out all activities, trade unions are closely linked with the party's political task of each period. To enable the party to lay down plans and policies in conformity with the people's aspirations, trade unions must reflect the situation of production work, living conditions, ideological variations, ways of thinking, and aspirations of the people, workers, and state employees and constantly keep party committees at each level abreast of these things. At the same time, they should seek the advice and guidance of the party committee which assumes jurisdiction over them.

In other spheres, party committees at various levels are responsible for guiding the implementation of various resolutions and orders given to trade unions since they represent the party's line toward trade unions. Party committees must set timetables for listening to reports by trade unions and provide comments on their work. They must attentively study and resolve various problems submitted by trade unions. Party members attached to state enterprises and workers of various organizations must join trade union organizations and must serve as models in carrying out tasks laid down by trade unions. This is to further strengthen the relations between party members and the masses. Party members must educate and train the masses to effectively implement the party's line and policies and promote the merit of party leadership in trade unions. Party committees at various levels must lead the local administration to closely coordinate with trade unions in all work and make trade unions a symbol of unity among workers, state employees, and the state power.

Beloved comrades, at present, thanks to the U.S. imperialists' militarist, warmongering, and adventurous policy, the world situation has become extremely tense. The peace and security of various nations are being seriously threatened. The Reagan administration is carrying out an extremely reactionary global strategy, speeding up the arms race at a speed unheard of before and making preparations to lead all mankind to the holocaust of a nuclear war. At the same time, it is frantically intensifying all-round attacks against the various forces of peace, national independence, and socialism. In other spheres, it has stepped up its collusion with the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists and further tightened the U.S.-Japan-South Korea military alliance.

The world's people recently saw more clearly the bellicose and aggressive nature of the Reagan administration. The U.S. imperialists have openly and brazenly invaded and occupied Grenada, committed armed intervention against Nicaragua and El Salvador, encircled and threatened Cuba, sent forces to Lebanon, and intensified their collusion with Israel to attack and threaten Syria. They have exerted efforts to install medium-range nuclear missiles in many Western European countries despite the anger and strong opposition of the American people themselves and of the people in Western Europe and throughout the world.

Faced with such a situation, the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Pact member countries have advanced peace initiatives on many occasions which have been aimed at reducing tension and checking the holocaust of a nuclear war. Yet, the Reagan administration and its NATO allies have resorted to all tricks to hoodwink public opinion and have gone further carrying out their dark designs. Being highly responsible for the fate of all nations and loyal to its unwavering peace policy, the Soviet Union has adopted a resolute position as reflected in the 24 November 1983 statement of Comrade Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

We fully support the correct and principled stand and various measures taken by the Soviet Union to counter any dangerous situation caused by the warmongering intentions and actions of the U.S. imperialists and their colleagues. [applause]

We strongly condemn the U.S. imperialists for their current armed provocations, armed intervention, and direct aggression against many countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. We are firmly convinced that the resolute struggle of the various forces of world peace and revolution, which are massing as a single front with the Soviet Union serving as the diamond-hard fortress, will inevitably succeed in firmly safeguarding world peace. All militarist and warmongering intentions of the imperialists and the international reactionaries are bound to be defeated! [applause]

In the present era, no vicious or inhuman forces can check the strategic offensives of the three revolutionary currents and of the world peace movement. The Lao working class and people, closely uniting with the working class and peoples of the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries and with the working class and progressive peoples in the world, are determined to do everything to defeat the U.S. imperialists' warmongering schemes, safeguard peace and security in the world, and contribute honorably to the common cause of various nations struggling for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress. [applause]

Regarding this region, our working class and laboring people are determined to persistently contribute to turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation. [applause]

Beloved comrades, in the past the Lao working class and people of all tribes, under the leadership of their vanguard party, waged a heroic, persistent, and resolute struggle; won a glorious victory; completely liberated the country; and fulfilled the national-democratic revolution throughout the country, thus opening a new era for our nation's history -- an era of independence, freedom, and socialism. Our working class is now entrusted with a very important historic obligation. This obligation is to serve as an advance force in achieving the goal of shifting toward socialist industry and successfully building socialism in our country. In pursuing the goal of building Laos into an industrial country, the Lao working class will become a great, firm, and strong force, and our trade unions will become the working class' largest mass organizations.

To fulfill the above glorious historic obligation, let the Lao working class vigorously go a step further in carrying out the entire people's revolutionary movements aimed at triumphantly implementing the various economic and social objectives laid down at the third party congress. Let the trade unions at various levels join the laboring people of all tribes in vigorously participating in the all-people national defense movement and the public security movement. Let them mobilize emulation movements to take part in labor, engage in production enthusiastically and extensively, practice thrift, splendidly fulfill the First 1980-85 5-Year State Plan, score outstanding achievements to greet and salute the 30th anniversary of the founding of the party and the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the LPDR, and create firm foundations for future long-term plans.

With the unity and firm confidence in the correct and clear-sighted leadership of the party, with the special militant alliance and all-round cooperation between our country and Vietnam and Kampuchea, and with our close solidarity and all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries, our working class and people of all tribes are bound to win greater successes in the cause of defending and building socialist Laos, thereby honorably contributing to the various nations' struggle for peace, national independence, democracy, and socialism. [applause]

I am convinced that the delegates to this congress will closely unite, heighten the spirit of collective mastership and their sense of responsibility, and jointly make this first national congress of trade unions gloriously successful, thus responding to the firm confidence of the party, state, the working class, and the laboring people of all tribes in our country. [applause]

May this historic national congress of trade unions gloriously succeed! [applause]  
Thank you. [applause]

#### Leaders at 15 Dec Congress

BK151548 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] The First National Congress of the Lao Trade Union Federation continued for the second day on 15 December in an atmosphere of profound friendship and significance.

Attending were Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers; Souphanouvong, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, president of the LPDR and chairman of the Supreme People's Council, and of the Lao Front for National Construction Central Committee; General Khamtai Siphadon, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of national defense, and commander in chief of the LPA, secretaries of the party Central Committee; members and alternate members of the party Central Committee; ministers and deputy ministers; diplomats of various socialist countries; and many local and foreign guests.

On the second day of the congress, local and foreign delegates made speeches wholeheartedly saluting and hailing the historic congress of the Lao trade unions. Each delegation highly appreciated the great achievements recorded by the Lao working class and people in the cause of defending and building socialist Laos, thus reflecting the correct line and policies of the LPRP and the Lao people's patriotism and their close association with the new regime. The delegations of the working class of fraternal socialist countries affirmed their attitude and positive contributions to mutual support and assistance, particularly to the gradual progress and strength of the Lao working class, so that it can build a new economy, new life, and peaceful, independent, unified, and socialist Laos.

LAO REQUEST FOR MORE BORDER PASSES CONSIDERED

BK160354 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 16 Dec 83 p 5

[Text] Interior Minister Sitthi Chirarot said yesterday Thailand is still considering a long-standing request from Laos for the opening of more border passes along the frontier between the two countries.

Sitthi was speaking after having attended a meeting of senior officials from related government agencies at the Interior Ministry. The meeting held to prepare Thai stands for the upcoming meeting of the Thai-Lao border committee here was also attended by National Security Council (NSC) Secretary General Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, provincial governors from provinces adjacent to the landlocked country, representatives from the Foreign Ministry and the military.

The interior minister, who is the Thai chairman of the border committee, however, indicated that he stands for closer and stronger ties with Laos. "The government wishes to see the Thai and Lao peoples have as close a friendship and relationship as ever," he said.

In response to a question as to whether more border passes would be opened, Sitthi said: "Laotians cross the border just to buy consumer goods and we will be very happy to see the peoples on both sides of the frontier have good relations." He said the Thai delegation would be prepared to reply to the Lao request if and when it was renewed in the upcoming meeting. He did not elaborate. He said he expected the meeting would take place in the middle of next month.

The meeting, he said, who be organized in the light of improving atmosphere along the Mekong River. "It will be well-timed for the meeting to take place then," he said. He said Vientiane had proposed the meeting be organized either this month or next month, but he would be busy overseeing the forthcoming by-election in Nong Khai.

Laos had initially proposed last April as the time for the visit here by a delegation to be led by Lao Interior Minister Sisavat Keobounphan for the border committee meeting, but the Interior Ministry asked to postpone it because he would be bound to look after the general elections that month, he said. An informed source said the Thai delegation would take a "positive approach" in the course of the anticipated meeting whose agenda would be open ended.

GENERAL SAYS KHMERS STRONGER, OFFENSIVE POSSIBLE

BK160934 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 16 Dec 83 p 3

[Text] Deputy Commander of the First Army Region Maj-Gen Phichit Kunlawanit said this morning that Khmer resistance forces are now stronger than ever and care capable of launching a major offensive against the Vietnamese occupation forces.

The general said the strength of the Khmer resistance forces was clearly seen in their successful attack on the Vietnamese base in Thmar Puok in Kampuchea last week. In that attack, Gen Phichet said, the Khmer forces overran the base and seized a large number of war weapons left behind by the Vietnamese. On the Vietnamese side, Gen Phichet said their military preparedness has somewhat weakened.

Because of this, the general said he was confident that the Vietnamese would not be able to launch any major attack against Thai forces based at the border.

The Vietnamese attacked Thai forces at the border near the area of Phnom Phra and Phnom Chat last December, causing heavy casualties on both sides. "Our forces at the border are more prepared for battle and I can assure that the Vietnamese would face fierce counterattack should they try to make another attack," Gen Phichit added.

#### ARMY REJECTS TRANSFER OF FORMER HAN AIDE

BK160304 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Dec 83 p 3

[Text] Embattled Major Pathompong Kesonruk's departure from the Fourth Army did not follow military tradition and was not recognised, said an RTA [Royal Thai Army] announcement issued last night.

Actions taken by the aide of former Fourth Army Commander Gen Han Linanon violated military discipline and warranted appropriate action, it claimed.

The announcement said the transfer of a commissioned officer had to comply with Defence Ministry regulations. These stated that a military agency seeking the transfer of an officer had to seek prior permission from the officer's original agency. The transfer request would then go to the Office of the Permanent Secretary of Defence Ministry who would further seek approval from the Defence Minister to effect the transfer. The announcement went on to say the person issuing the transfer order for a commissioned officer had to submit a copy to his direct superior and additional copies would go to all ministry agencies. The officer involved, after having received a copy of the transfer order, would report out of his original agency, which would in turn give him a letter to present to the new agency.

The announcement continued: "The claim made by Maj Pathompong, as reported in newspapers, that he had reported himself out of duty at the Fourth Army Region is not considered to be a rightful one according to military tradition." In addition, it claimed neither the Fourth Army, nor the RTA, had received an official request from a superior agency concerning Maj Pathompong's transfer. As the officer had failed to report for duty at the original agency despite attempts made to contact him, the Fourth Army deemed him a deserter on December 1.

The Army had not yet expelled Maj Pathompong because it had not received the Fourth Army report and only the Defence Minister could dismiss a commissioned officer, it said.

Meanwhile, House Speaker Uthai Pimchaichon said the row seemed to indicate there was a serious conflict within the Army's top ranks. He said the sorry state of affairs also showed that government officials holding political posts had failed to separate their dual roles. This should be a warning to those seeking constitutional changes, Mr Uthai said.

#### BRIEFS

RICE SALE TO IRAN -- Thailand has agreed to sell about 400,000 metric tons of rice to Iran next year. Officials of the two countries had met recently in Bangkok to ensure each other's decision on the subject. The rice will be sold at the world market's price. [Excerpt] [Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 10 Dec 83 BK]

TRUONG CHINH REPLIES TO SYRIAN LEADER'S MESSAGE

BK151655 Hanoi VNA in English 1514 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 15 -- President of the Council of State Truong Chinh has sent a message of reply to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad who had informed the Vietnamese president of the serious situation in the Middle East resulting from the war escalation by the U.S. imperialists and the Israeli Zionists. The message says:

"Together with the whole progressive mankind, the Vietnamese people strongly condemn the U.S. gross interference in Lebanon, especially its air attacks on positions of Syria in the Arab peace-keeping forces in Lebanon. These acts have provoked a grave tension threatening peace and the national security of Lebanon, Syria and other Arab countries. These acts which took place right after the signing of the U.S.-Israeli agreement on military alliance show that the U.S. imperialists and the Israeli Zionists are attempting to use military pressure against the Arab states in the hope of forcing them to accept a settlement contrary to the national interests of the Palestinian people and the Arab people as a whole.

"The Socialist Republic of Vietnam demands that the United States immediately stop its policy of interference and aggression against the peoples of Lebanon, Syria, Palestine and other Arab nations, and immediately withdraw the troops of the U.S., Israel and all non-Arab countries from Lebanon.

"As in the past, the Vietnamese people fully support the just struggle of the peoples of Syria, Palestine, Lebanon and other Arab countries against U.S. imperialism and Israeli Zionism in order to regain the Arab territories illegally occupied by Israel, realize the sacred national rights of the Palestinian people, defend the independence and sovereignty of other Arab countries and safeguard peace in the Middle East and the rest of the world."

NHAN DAN SCORES U.S.-ISRAELI MIDEAST POLICIES

OW160809 Hanoi VNA in English 0724 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 16 -- The paper NHAN DAN today again demands that the United States and Israel stop their policy of intervention and aggression against Lebanon and Syria. Commenting on Israeli naval bombardment of the port area of Tripoli and U.S. jet fighters and warships' threatening and firing on Syrian forces east of Beirut, NHAN DAN says that these new acts of war escalation are a logical development of the U.S.-Israeli strategic collusion following Israeli Prime Minister Shamir's recent U.S. trip which resulted in the setting up of a joint politico-military committee.

The paper says: "It is necessary to point out that all the U.S. pretences and lies associated with its war escalations are aimed at misleading public opinion and carrying on and expediting its political scheme in conjunction with Israel. The Reagan administration's claim that it would attack only if attacked is actually an excuse for sending more troops to Lebanon. This allegation reeks of the logic the U.S. aggressors have once used in Vietnam to progressively increase their intervention".

The paper notes that "anti-U.S. feelings are running high in the Middle East, and even the Arab regimes supporting Reagan's 'peace solution' have also criticized the United States. In the United States itself, popular discontent is increasing, and the American people, including many prominent political figures, are pressing the government to bring the U.S. Marines home".

The paper recalls "President Truong Chinh's message to Syrian President Hafiz Al-asad renewing the Vietnamese people's consistent support for the Arab people's demand that the United States stop its policy of intervention and aggression against the Lebanese people, the Syrian people, the Palestinian people and other Arab peoples, and immediately withdraw troops of its own, of Israel and non-Arab countries from Lebanon."

DENG XIAOPING TURNS PLA INTO TOOL FOR HEGEMONY

OW151313 Hanoi International Service in Mandarin 1130 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Radio talk: "Sophistry Cannot Cover Up Truth"]

[Text] Recently Beijing's propaganda machine and the Dengist faction have advertised in a big way the "Selected Works of Deng Xiaoping," saying that the selected works are masterpieces of a great turning point of China, and that their ideological profundity is of great significance in guiding China's socialist revolution and the building of the party and the Armed Forces today and in the future.

What after all is this so-called ideological profundity of Deng's selected works? One can see the truth from the dozen or so talks by Deng Xiaoping on Army building. Deng Xiaoping said that China's Army building has returned to the right track since victory was won during the self-defense counterattack against Vietnam in February 1979, and that the self-defense counterattack against Vietnam has greatly enhanced the prestige of China's antihegemonist struggle and the prestige of the Chinese Armed Forces throughout the country.

Was Den Xiaoping's claim correct?

Commenting on Deng's criminal war against six northern provinces of Vietnam with 600,000 troops in February 1979, Japan's KYODO said that such a military action taken by the Chinese Army cannot be anything but an aggression. The whole world, from East to West, also denounced the Chinese authorities' flagrant aggression. Even Chen Yun candidly said to Deng Xiaoping: Because of our attack against Vietnam, we got a dressing down if not beaten up.

The Chinese people also opposed the filthy war against Vietnam launched by their leaders and said that it was no different from the crimes committed by Japanese fascists against the Chinese people in the past. The antiwar leaflets appearing in Shanghai, Beijing and Hunan said: Deng Xiaoping, go to hell! February 17 of 1979 is a smirch in Chinese history and a day of national shame.

In an open letter to Deng Xiaoping, (Wu Huisheng), a retired teacher in Kunming, Yunnan, whose son died in the war of aggression against Vietnam said bluntly: the Chinese people don't want such a war.

(Zhou Wensheng), a soldier of 120th Regiment of the 40th Division of the Chinese 14th Army, was captured while intruding into Vietnam. Prior to his release and return to China, he told the truth and said: Since 1978 and especially since Deng Xiaoping came to power, the Chinese Government has been spreading the propaganda among the people and the Armed Forces that Vietnam was expelling Chinese people, carrying out armed provocations against China and intruding into Chinese territory. (Zhou) added that people like himself did not believe Deng's claim because they realized that the Chinese border inhabitants were leading a normal life along the border areas, and that they could not see any Vietnamese aggression against China.

After (Zhou's) unit was transferred to Hekou, he saw that the local people were living in peace as usual and there was not any indication of war. After his unit intruded into Vietnam's Lao Cai, Bat Xat and Muong Khuong, he personally witnessed elderly Vietnamese people, women and children killed by Chinese troops and many civilian houses destroyed by them just like the Japanese pirates did to the Chinese people when they attacked China in the past.

Facts show that Deng Xiaoping has turned the Chinese Army into an aggressive army to realize his expansionist and hegemonic ambition, that China's image has been tarnished by what world public opinion calls an aggressive war against Vietnam, and that the Chinese PLA has become an aggressive army that attacked the brotherly Vietnam. Just as the Chinese people lamented, times have changed.

Deng Xiaoping said that the self-defense counterattack against Vietnam had enhanced the prestige of China and the Chinese Army at home and abroad. This is sheer nonsense. Although Deng Xiaoping is in the revolutionary garb of Marxism-Leninism, he is actually doing what is against Marxism, Leninism and revolution. The statement by Lu Xun, the great Chinese writer is still of practical value: Lies written with ink can never cover up facts written with blood!

#### LE DUAN RECEIVES NORWEGIAN COMMUNIST DELEGATION

BK151456 Hanoi VNA in English 1508 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec 15 -- Le Duan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, today received the visiting delegation of the Communist Party of Norway led by Hans Kloven, chairman of the party Central Committee.

Present at the reception were Nguyen Co Thach, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee, and Tran Danh Tuyen, deputy head of the party Central Committee International Department.

On behalf of the party Central Committee, General Secretary Le Duan extended warm welcome to Chairman Hans Kloven and his delegation, saying that their visit provided a good opportunity to enhance the friendship and solidarity between the parties and peoples of Vietnam and Norway.

In his cordial conversation with the delegation, Le Duan briefed the guests on the past arduous revolutionary struggle of the Vietnamese people under the leadership of the Communist Party against imperialist aggressions for national independence and freedom. He also dealt with the Vietnamese people's present task of national construction and defense.

Le Duan wished the delegation the best success in its visit and further development of the friendship and solidarity between the two parties in the interest of each party and of the common struggle of the world people for peace, national independence and socialism.

On behalf of the delegation, Chairman Hans Kloven expressed the Norwegian Communists' admiration for the heroic struggle of the Vietnamese Communists and people in their past national liberation fight as well as in the present endeavours in national construction and defense.

Chairman Hans Kloven expressed the best wishes for the fraternal friendship and solidarity between the two parties.

The reception took place in an atmosphere of warm friendship and fraternity.

CHU TAM THUC DISCUSSES AGRICULTURAL TAX POLICY

BK141508 Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese Oct 83, pp 11-15, 45-46

[Article by Chu Tam Thuc: "Thoroughly Understand and Scrupulously Implement the New Agricultural Tax Policy" -- capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Text] Prompt Improvement of the Agricultural Tax Policy Is Necessary

The agricultural tax policy is a major policy of the party and the state. Implemented in 1951, this policy was initially aimed at motivating peasants to contribute their manpower and assets to serving the anti-French resistance and at readjusting part of the land endowments of the landlords and rich peasants classes.

Repeatedly supplemented and revised through various stages since the land reform and agricultural cooperativization in the north and since the total liberation of the south, the agricultural tax policy has become instrumental in boosting agricultural production, accelerating socialist transformation, strengthening new production relations in rural areas, and especially enabling the state to secure a quantity of grain needed for national construction and defense and for the betterment of the people's livelihood.

The agricultural tax policy and efforts to organize and manage the collection of taxes in the past have, however, shown certain deficiencies:

The tax policy has not been uniform nationwide. Agricultural tax is a kind of tax levied on land endowments. Once a piece of land produces endowments, the beneficiary will have to pay a tax which was previously calculated according to the average per-capita income of each agricultural household. The starting level for taxation in the north was 60 kilos of paddy per capita, and in the south was 200 kilos of paddy per capita. Formerly, such stipulations were suited to the situation, customs, and socioeconomic conditions of each region. Today, the stipulations are found to be fraught with deficiencies and no longer suited to various policies of the party and the state, such as the policy on population growth and the policy to encourage the sending of laborers to open virgin land areas. Furthermore, more than 30 percent (or even up to 40 percent in certain cases) of private agricultural households formerly enjoyed tax exemptions for their land use, thus causing the agricultural tax policy to lose its fair and reasonable character and rendering it impossible to develop its effect in the management and use of land.

Formerly, as far as the collective economic sector (cooperatives) was concerned, the tax was not calculated according to land area and the fertility of soil. Instead, it was calculated according to the total amount of tax paid by all members of a cooperative before they joined this cooperative, with the maximum level of tax being 25 percent. As a result, the average percentage of tax varied greatly from one cooperative to another. Cooperatives with a large number of poor peasants enjoyed low tax quotas while cooperative with large land areas but a small population had to accept rather high tax quotas.

Land area, crop yield, and agricultural population are the principal factors on which the agricultural tax is calculated. As for land area, many localities have thus far not started measuring their land areas. As for the calculation of tax, they have relied chiefly upon the figures on land area voluntarily declared by households. Consequently, errors in land measurement and dishonest declarations of land use are commonplace. The failure to reflect the real conditions of land has also been noted.

As for crop output and yields, the calculation of tax has also relied mainly on declared figures, without taking into account any analysis of the degree of fertility and the irrigation conditions for categorizing the land. Rapid increases, in the number of family household members, sometimes unnatural, indicated further attempts to make false declarations incompatible with the policy.

Organizational efforts to implement the tax policy have shown many deficiencies and errors, such as making erroneous tax calculations resulting in a tax collection shortfall, failing to promptly compile tax records, granting tax reductions or exemptions indiscriminately, allowing the practice of incomplete tax payments, permitting tax debts to pile up, and so forth. As a result, the state of the tax collection shortfall has become critical for several years now. Considering the amount of tax collected during a 5-year period (1976-80), tax payments constituted only 6.3 percent of the total volume of grain yields harvested.

In summation, although repeatedly revised, the former agricultural tax policy was designed to levy tax on land endowments, relying on the three factors -- namely, land areas, crop yields, and the number of members in each rural household. This was a sort of graduated tax. This policy, however, failed to meet a demand for fair and reasonable contributions and to promote intensive cultivation, multiple cropping, the expansion of areas under cultivation, and increased management over and effective use of lands. The calculation of tax according to the agricultural population of each household was also not compatible with the principle of distribution according to labor and the current new managerial structure in agriculture. Under the old tax system, there was no distinction between collective and individual production so as to encourage the development of a collective economy and appropriately regulate the income of those who used large areas of land and engaged in individual production. Consequently, the improvement of the agricultural tax policy has become an urgent problem.

#### Purposes and Main Contents of the Decree Law on Agricultural Tax

With the improvement of the agricultural tax system becoming an urgent problem, as early as 1980 the VCP Central Committee Political Bureau issued Resolution No. 26/NQ/TU, establishing guidelines and requirements for the revision of the agricultural tax policy. The resolution said: "THE AGRICULTURAL TAX POLICY MUST BE UNIFORM NATIONWIDE AND MUST BE FAIR AND SIMPLE. IT MUST ADVOCATE RELYING ON LAND AREAS AND THE FERTILITY OF SOIL TO PROMOTE INTENSIVE CULTIVATION, MULTICROPPING, AND THE EXPANSION OF AREAS UNDER CULTIVATION, AND MUST PROMOTE INCREASED MANAGEMENT OVER AND USE OF LAND. AGRICULTURAL TAX-COLLECTION PLANS AND EFFORTS MUST ENSURE THAT THE STATE CAN COLLECT 10 PERCENT OF THE (NATION'S) TOTAL GRAIN YIELD AS TAX. AS FOR ESSENTIAL FARM PRODUCTS, TAX SHOULD BE PAID IN KIND. THOSE PRODUCTS TAXED IN CASH SHOULD BE GIVEN MARKET PRICES. ANYONE REFUSING TO PAY THE AGRICULTURAL TAX WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM EXPLOITING THEIR LAND."

In compliance with the 28 December 1982 resolution of the fourth meeting of the seventh National Assembly, the Council of State on 3 March 1983 promulgated a DECREE LAW SPECIFYING THE NEW AGRICULTURAL TAX POLICY to be applied nationwide, beginning 1983. In its Decision No 25/HDBT, dated 30 March 1983, the Council of Ministers provided detailed stipulations for the implementation of the above decree law on agricultural tax.

The newly promulgated agricultural tax policy is designed to promote increased agricultural production and intensive cultivation for attaining a higher crop output; encourage multicropping, the expansion of areas under cultivation, and better management and use of land; promote socialist transformation in agriculture; serve as a contribution to stepping up agricultural cooperativization in the south and consolidating agricultural production cooperatives in the north; and ensure appropriate accumulation for the state budget while guaranteeing the people's livelihood.

To promote intensive cultivation, multicropping, and an increase in rice output and the economic results of land use, agricultural tax is imposed mainly on agricultural land and based on the following factors for tax computation: land area and soil category for land cultivated around the year, and land area and crop yields or annual value of crop yields for lands used as orchards or planted with perennial trees. The categorization of land cultivated around the year is based on soil fertility and on irrigation conditions. This can be done relatively easy because the bulk of crop plants cultivated yearly are grain and food crops, especially the rice crop. Paddy will be used as a means to compute any increase in the production output in all categories of land.

This is convenient for tax computation and serves as an encouragement for peasants to develop crop cultivation plans designed to serve requirements for consumption, for domestic industrial production, and for export. As for lands used for orchards or planted with perennial trees, the categorization of land is not required, considering the fact that the biological conditions of these crops are very different and that some kinds of soil fit for planting this crop may not be suited for planting other crops. To be more rational and simple, the computation of the tax must be based on the annual production volume or on the value of the annual production volume.

Also based on the concept of encouraging production, the constructive agricultural tax table applied to land cultivated year-round advocates levying a paddy tax on seven categories of land based on the soil fertility and irrigation conditions. Even for first-quality soil, the production output is set merely at 5 metric tons per hectare and the tax quota is also fixed -- not predicated on crop yields.

Thus, peasants do not have to pay additional tax for any amount of paddy produced beyond the 5-ton mark. The rate of tax also varies from one region to another -- lowlands, midlands, and mountainous regions. Because of the varied cultivation conditions in the three regions, the tax rate in each region must be different. In line with the party's nationalities policy, the tax rates for the mountainous region are set relatively lower than those for the midland and lowland regions.

As for lands planted with perennial trees or used as orchards, agricultural tax is not computed according to a fixed level of production output but to the proportion of annual production volume or the value of annual production volume of each crop. This is to suit the biological development process of perennial trees since they have many economic and technical characteristics quite different from those crop plants cultivated year-round.

The stipulation of a general incentive tax proportion of 12 percent for all kinds of perennial industrial crops and a standard tax proportion of 10-30 percent for fruit orchards based on the land area used by each household (between 1,000 and 5,000 square meters or 5,000 square meters and above) and the provision for the differences between general fruit trees and those indigenous fruit trees having high economic value and between individual economy and collective economy, reflect the legitimate concern of the state over the orchard-oriented economy as well as the just and rational character of the state's incentive policy for lands planted with each particular kind of crop.

To promote the expansion of areas under agricultural production, newly opened virgin lands and newly reclaimed wastelands will be temporarily entitled to tax exemptions -- from 3 to 5 years for newly reclaimed wastelands and from 1 to 3 years for newly opened virgin lands, starting from the first crop harvest. As for newly reclaimed wastelands and newly opened virgin lands in new economic zones, high-lying areas, mountainous regions, and areas newly established for settled farming and settled life, the tax exemption period may be extended if the lives of the people there are beset with difficulties.

As specified by the Constitution, our land belongs to the entire population. All organizations and individuals using agricultural land or other kinds of land for agricultural production are dutybound to pay agricultural taxes. The above incentive policy has been calculated and established on the basis of socialist production relations, which are having, or will have a leading role in rural areas. Agricultural cooperatives or those agricultural production collectives having an administrative system similar to cooperatives must pay taxes in accordance with the law. Other organizations and individuals must also pay taxes in accordance with the general stipulations in addition to other levies depending on their status.

As they are still unable to stabilize their production plans and overcome imbalances in production and management, state farms and all state-run agricultural stations are entitled to a temporary exemption from the agricultural tax. They must, however, continue implementing the systems of surrendering their products and turning in part of their income as currently in practice.

All social organizations, public organs, mass organizations, enterprises, and state-employed cadres, office, and manual workers, including cadres, office, and manual workers of various state-run agricultural sites and stations, military units, officers and enlisted men, and members of cooperatives and production cooperatives, should pay taxes in accordance with the general stipulations applied for cooperatives if they use land for agricultural production to support their families' economies.

To suit the current situation and to draw a line between the family economy and collective economy, it is specified that the tax levied on land privately used by peasant households for production will be calculated according to the general stipulations for tax proportions in addition to a surcharge computed according to the total amount of tax to be paid, varying between 60 percent to the maximum and 10 percent to the minimum, depending upon the areas cultivated year-round by the peasant households concerned (not including category-7 land areas which have been distributed as compensation to those peasant households owning much unfertile land). Once the principal tax is added to the maximum surcharge of 60 percent, the tax rate levied on first-quality land will be approximately 22 percent in the lowlands, 20 percent in the midlands, and 19 percent in the mountainous region.

Because our agriculture-oriented country's production is still heavily affected by the natural elements, the decree law on agricultural tax also advocates giving tax exemptions or reductions when there is a serious crop failure due to natural calamities or the scourge of war and when there is poor crop harvest due to changes made in sowing schedules or in economic-technical production plans to suit the state plan.

Tax reductions will be given if crop damage accounts for more than 20 percent of the initial crop output of the related category of land. Tax exemptions will be granted if crop damage rises above 70 percent. Tax exemptions or reductions will not be considered for lands used as orchards or planted with perennial crops because tax for these kinds of lands is calculated according to annual production volume or the value of annual production volume.

In addition to difficulties caused by natural calamities and the scourge of war, those families of disabled soldiers and fallen heroes having difficulties earning a living and those households formerly exempted from land endowment tax because they did not have enough agricultural laborers and which now face difficulties making ends meet because they have to pay tax, will be considered for exemption from the surcharge or for tax exemptions or reductions after confirmation from the local administration concerned is received.

#### Some Problems Regarding the Organization of Work Implementation

Paying tax is the duty of every citizen. Anyone who uses land owned by the state is duty-bound to pay agricultural tax. During the transition to socialism, the agricultural tax task should be regarded as part of the class struggle to solve the problem of "who will defeat whom" in order to ensure successes for socialism in the rural areas. Therefore, all party and administrative echelons must be fully aware of the significance of the agricultural tax-related task and must satisfactorily carry out ideological activities among party cadres and members as well as among the masses if the agricultural tax policy of the party and the state is to be scrupulously implemented.

First, we must MAKE EVERYONE FULLY AWARE OF THE FAIRNESS, RATIONALITY, SIMPLICITY, AND ESPECIALLY THE INCENTIVE FOR PRODUCTION of the new agricultural tax policy as it advocates promoting intensive cultivation, multicropping, the expansion of areas under cultivation, and the increase in the management and use of land; and it establishes an acceptable tax rate for each category of land located in each particular region.

The qualities of SIMPLICITY, EASE OF COMPREHENSION, PRACTICALITY AS WELL AS FAIRNESS AND RATIONALITY of the new agricultural tax policy are reflected through the mode of taxation that IMPOSES A FIXED TAX QUOTA ON EACH PARTICULAR CATEGORY OF LAND, thus making it possible for peasants or any land exploiters to calculate the amount of tax they have to pay by themselves. Everyone should pay tax for the land they are exploiting. Those exploiting large areas of land or cultivating prime quality land should pay more tax than those exploiting smaller areas or poor-quality land. The amount of tax to be paid by each person does not depend on any factors other than LAND AREA and the CATEGORY OF LAND (or the annual production volume) and such a tax payment is linked merely with the right to land use.

The already-established table of fixed tax quotas, though listing only a few categories of land, is considered good enough to cover all categories of good- or poor-quality land in the country. For top quality land, the taxable crop output is set at metric tons of hectare. This equals only 40-50 percent of the crop output now being attained by many progressive agricultural production units. No additional tax will be paid for any output obtained beyond the 5-ton mark. This serves as a source of encouragement for everyone and every unit to develop production.

For the lowest category in the tax table, the fixed tax quota seems to be remarkable because it is designed to provide incentive to the expansion of areas under cultivation and to multicropping. The collection of tax in paddy -- using rice as a general calibration for other crops cultivated around the year -- is aimed at promoting the development of crop patterns, and the increase in the proportions of industrial, subsidiary food and vegetable crops in support of export, production, and domestic consumption.

Although being calculated according to proportions, the tax levied on land planted with perennial crops is still regarded as capable of ensuring a correspondence and balance against the tax imposed on land planted with annual crops.

The new agricultural tax policy will also contribute to CARRYING OUT SOCIALIST TRANSFORMATION IN AGRICULTURE. This is because the tax table is arranged in favor of the COLLECTIVE ECONOMIC sector, that is in favor of the advanced mode of production relations which is now prevailing in the rural areas. The tax table is also designed to encourage and attract peasants into collective work, thus contributing to ensuring the completion of the socialist transformation of agriculture in the south by 1985.

Faced with the present situation and conditions in the south where the privately run economic sector is prevalent, we have no choice but to accept the tax rate now applied to the privately run economic sector although it is higher than that applied to the collective-run economic sector. Moreover, this tax rate has been set in favor of the privately run economic sector, taking into consideration the difficulties confronting individual production.

Paying agricultural tax is the duty of peasants toward the cause of socialist industrialization and of national construction and defense. Compared with before, the amount of agricultural tax collected under the new decree law should be increased in such a way as to make up 10 percent of the total volume of annual grain production. This tax collection rate is considered reasonable as it should be applied in such a way as to, on the one hand, reflect the progress achieved in agriculture thanks to the state's large investments in irrigation and intensive cultivation, and on the other hand, demonstrate the country's growing demand for economic and cultural development as well as for national defense.

It is necessary to make everyone fully aware that great assistance given by fraternal countries made it possible for us to meet all the demands of the country during the anti-U.S. struggle for national salvation.

Today, that source of assistance is no longer as generous as it was and the difficulties confronting the economy have become much fiercer and increasingly grave. Faced with such a situation, in order to secure the sources of funds needed for national construction and defense, the state has no alternative but to rely chiefly on the MOBILIZATION OF THE SOURCE OF FUNDS from within the country's economy. To achieve this aim, it is necessary for the state-run economic sector to strive to develop production, increase the use rate of machinery and equipment, raise the labor output, reduce production costs, cut down transportation costs, ensure effective trading activities, and make more contributions to the state budget. As for those state- or privately-run economic establishments which have not yet been adequately mobilized, we must muster them to provide more appropriate contributions to the state.

It is necessary to vigorously develop patriotism and cultivate a sense of collective mastery and a self-reliant spirit for everyone, especially for peasants, making them fully aware of the difficulties now facing the country, especially those connected with the national budget, and of their responsibility and duties toward the fatherland so that they can scrupulously comply with the tax policy. In addition, we must guard against such phenomena as misinterpretation of the tax policy, tax evasion, tax fraud, and indiscriminate tax exemptions or reductions.

It is necessary to make cadres and the people clearly realize that the tax collection task is part of the tough and complex struggle between the two paths -- socialist and capitalist -- and that in this struggle, we must guard against the counterpropaganda against and distortion of the tax policy by the enemy and other evil elements. We must oppose those negative phenomena which may be found among peasants such as deliberately delaying their tax payments or failing to comply with the tax policy.

It is necessary to firmly grasp the viewpoint adopted by the party toward the masses in tax collection: that we must rely on, educate, and motivate the masses to struggle to implement the decree law on agricultural tax in accordance with the slogan: "Everyone has his duties toward the fatherland and is duty-bound to make contributions to the country if its heavy burden is to be shared in a fair and reasonable manner."

It is necessary to enhance the patriotism of the masses and their awareness of socialism so that they can happily and actively volunteer to pay their agricultural tax, considering this as their responsibility, duty and honor. As our country's peasants have a high sense of patriotism, if they are given a clear explanation on the agricultural tax policy, they will certainly and happily volunteer to pay tax in order to fulfill their duty toward the fatherland.

According to initial reports, there have been slow efforts to implement the decree law in certain areas. The methods of implementation adopted by those areas just starting to carry out the decree law are not uniform and not compatible with the guidelines stipulated by the Council of Ministers. All areas where the party committee echelons and the local administrations have attentively provided close guidance for preparatory work are reported to have completed the inventory and categorization of lands, quickly calculated tax rates, compiled tax records, detected more areas of land to be taxed, and categorized their lands in accordance with the real situation. They have won the people's support for this.

In certain areas, the new tax rate shows an increase of 30-40 percent over last year. The local peasants have, however, viewed this increase as appropriate and have happily paid their tax.

There are also many localities failing to satisfactorily implement the new agricultural tax policy. For instance, they have lowered the categories of land, putting quite large areas of land in the lowest category. Their inventory of land has not been carefully and appropriately carried out, thus rendering them unable to detect more areas of taxable land. Worse still, the figures on land areas provided by certain localities are unjustifiably smaller than before. Such phenomena must be promptly rectified if effective implementation of the decree law is to be ensured.

Experience obtained over the years in tax collection shows that in order to ensure scrupulous implementation of a party policy, we must firmly grasp and closely integrate the following four factors:

- The concern in leadership on the part of various party committee echelons and local administrations.
- Exemplary performance on the part of party cadres and members.
- An awareness of duties on the part of the masses.
- Respect for socialist law.

In addition, appropriate efforts must be made to strengthen the agricultural tax mechanism at all levels.

MARKET RELATIONS IN ECONOMIC PLANNING DISCUSSED

BK141016 Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese Oct 83 pp 17-25

[Article by Che Viet Tan: "Some Problems of Applying Market Relations in Economic Management and Planning"]

[Text] Applying market relations in economic management and planning is a subject that has for years been and is being studied and discussed in a number of socialist countries.

In our country, this is also a very important subject that is of great significance both theoretically and practically to the whole process of economic management and planning; and that is closely related to the struggle between the socialist and capitalist roads in the initial stage of the transition period.

### I. A Planned Economy and the Application of Market Relations

We will not return to the virtually bygone period in which some socialist economists upheld the theory that goods-money relations no longer exist under socialism.

This theory has given rise to a concept that calls for a highly centralized management system for the socialist economy wherein administrative measures are enforced by the proletarian state to control all socioeconomic activities, and that virtually negates market relations in economic management and planning while the law of value still remains active in the socialist economic system.

As time goes by, in the practical process of socialist construction, the issue involving market relations in a planned economy has been seriously considered in economic management and in the planning of the socialist economy.

We all know that market relations are closely linked with the production of goods under each particular social system. As our country is in the first stage of the transition period from small-scale production to large-scale socialist production, it is necessary to point out the characteristics of our national economy by analyzing the nature of the market in this period.

The socialist and capitalist markets are similar in some respects as there exist in both of them goods, money, exchanges, profits, and the laws of value and of supply and demand. Capitalism uses the market as the medium to regulate production and distribute the national income for the purpose of enriching the capitalist class and expanding the capitalist production method.

Under the capitalist system, production and distribution are regulated by the law of value. Market competition and the extremely strong appeal of profits have a great impact on production and distribution, prompting the capitalists to act quickly and dynamically in areas that bring about huge profits, or in other words, to answer the call of the market. Therefore, the capitalist economy can be referred to as a market economy or, to be more correct, a market commodity economy.

The workings of the socialist market are similar in some respects to those of the capitalist market; but they differ from the latter in nature. Production in a socialist society is basically the production of commodities. We still need to try by every means to enrich this production system both quantitatively and qualitatively.

Nevertheless, commodities in the socialist market are governed by socialist production relations and the system of public ownership of the means of production (production in a socialist society is the production of commodities although part of the production materials involved are both commodities and noncommodities).

Profits obtained from the market are partially allowed to accumulate for expanding the socialist production method (this is similar to the accumulation of capital for expanding the capitalist production method), and the rest is for distribution according to labor.

The socialist economy is influenced by the fundamental economic law of socialism and other economic laws such as the law governing the planned and balanced development of the national economy, the law of distribution according to labor, and so forth. These laws also develop their regulating role through the planned economy, including the market.

In the socialist market, the law of value and the law of supply and demand do not play an active role in regulating production and distribution. The dynamic character of the socialist market lies not in "competition." Here, production and distribution are regulated by socialist economic laws and influenced by the working of the law of value and the law of supply and demand that still exist in the commodity economy of a socialist society. In view of this, the socialist economy is also called a planned economy or, to be more correct, "a planned commodity economy."

In sum, the capitalist economy is a market commodity economy and the socialist economy is a planned commodity economy. Although these two economic systems work similarly in the form of market, they differ in nature. They perform two different functions of two methods of social production and are basically in opposition to each other.

In the first stage of the socialist revolution when a struggle is being conducted to deprive the exploitative classes (capitalist, feudal, and other classes) of their ownership of the means of production, production is carried out with the main driving force being the revolutionary spirit of the masses combined with control of the economy achieved by centralized guidance through administrative measures. In this stage, the market still exists but has yet to clearly assert its role.

Today, the ever greater expansion of exchanges on the international market has affected the market in many countries. The dynamic character of the socialist market has become manifest and served as a factor that stimulates production in the socialist economy.

The formulation of the socialist production method has gradually changed the nature of the market in the planned commodity economy. Therefore, it must be stressed that in a planned economy, the market, despite its dynamic character, still remains part of the plan. Through supply and demand, the dynamic character of the market -- which is already regulated by the law governing the planned and balanced development of the national economy and influenced by the law of value in the socialist market -- serves the fundamental socialist economic laws. The planned economy is controlled not only by legal plan norms, but also by the various policies, incentive measures, and other methods designed to apply market relation in a planned economy. This also helps strengthen socialist production relations and the position of the planned economy.

Thus, in planning work, we may employ the direct planning method together with the system of legal norms, and we may also employ the indirect planning method, that is, planning carried out through the various policies, incentive measures, and economic laws, all of which are part of the planned economy and meet the requirements of socialist economic laws. In view of this, we cannot cite the employment of the direct or indirect planning method as grounds to contend that there are economic activities within the plan with legal norms as well as economic activities outside the plan through the market. In short, as market and market relations still exist objectively in the socialist economy and have the effect of stimulating production and distribution, the application of market relations under socialism is a must. This is an issue we must study to be able to apply market relations more correctly and in a principled manner to support the new managerial strategy and management mechanism.

While applying market relations in economic management and planning in our country at present, it is necessary to avoid the two following tendencies.

First there is the tendency to regulate the economy purely through commands, guidance, and control enforced by a system of all too numerous and rigid legal norms together with heavily detailed guidelines and measures that, in some cases, interfere too deeply in the production activities of the basic units.

The use of numerous legal norms and administrative commands ties up economic activities and naturally results in slowing down production. Failure to closely observe the situation of a given place at a given time often results because basic units, to meet the pressing immediate requirements, are forced to "get around the rule," deviate from the approved plan, and make false reports to the higher echelons. In the end, the legal character of the plan is weakened, and, at times, the plan only exists for form's sake.

Second, there are the tendencies to overrate the law of value, erroneously emphasize the effect of the market, and make light of the plan, especially its legal component. This tendency narrows down and weakens the role of the plan in management and floats production and distribution by the basic units in the "market." In production, legal norms assigned by the higher echelons are neglected and efforts are only made to turn out so-called "extracurricular" products that are needed on the market and bring about greater profits. In distribution and circulation, the discipline concerning the delivery of products to the state is not scrupulously observed and grain is purchased at incentive prices rather than under two-way contracts.

In reality, this tendency allows the spontaneous character of the market to override the plan and the unorganized market to encroach on the organized market, thereby upsetting economic activities.

Both tendencies mentioned above exist at different degrees in economic management and planning work in our country at present.

In recent years we have changed the system of legal norms and applied a number of professional planning methods. However, this change faces difficulties and limitations because the new managerial mechanism has yet to be established and, at the same time, many economic policies and management systems that were adopted decades ago and have become outmoded have not been revised.

In this situation, some sectors, localities, and basic units have not remained inactive, and they have displayed much creativity in adopting the new workstyle. Apart from this, many manifestations of sluggishness and conservatism have not been eliminated, and there are new errors that must be corrected.

The manifestations of the tendency to chase after the market mechanism have partially degraded the economic relations of the economic and state management system.

In some localities, the economic management system, though still maintaining an outward appearance of unity, has been gradually eroded or disrupted from within by negative phenomena, thereby creating a falsehood in the economy that is also invading other spheres of social activities.

On the other hand, there still exist fairly tenacious "conservatism and sluggishness" as displayed in the stubborn upholding of the illogical, the obsolete, and the backward after the situation has changed, as well as in the desire to restore the "old order" of the managerial mechanism that must be eliminated. This has hampered production and, at the same time, has given rise to "getting-around-the rules" reactions, irresponsibility, and indiscipline. Apart from this, new progress and new factors have surfaced in many units and localities. However, it is regrettable that they have yet to be multiplied, developed into models, and institutionalized because the new managerial mechanism has not yet been established.

This situation is rendering us less effective in directing the economy. The structural dismantling of the old management system has ushered in a new period of managerial changeover in which new progress is mingled with conservatism, sluggishness, negativism, and new errors as the structure of the new management system has not yet been perfectly set up.

The experience gained by fraternal socialist countries and realities in our country show that it is no simple task to establish a system of economic management and planning suitable to the special characteristics of each country. Time and patience are needed to switch from an old mechanism for economic management to a new one. Therefore, the current period can be called a changeover period or an embryonic period in which we are seeking ways to establish a new mechanism for economic management -- one that employs planning as the focal point and democratic centralism as the principle, closely links planning with economic accounting and socialist business methods, firmly grasps use-value, and, at the same time, respects value and the law of value.

## II. Consolidate and Develop the Central Role of Planning in the Managerial Mechanism and Strengthen Market Management

What must be done to satisfactorily employ market relations in economic management and planning in our country's current conditions? There are two tasks that must be carried out simultaneously: The first is to consolidate and develop the central role of planning in the managerial mechanism, and the second is to strengthen market management. These two tasks can only be carried out in a satisfactory and steady manner on the basis of constantly strengthening socialist production relations. In our country's situation, we must satisfactorily carry out socialist transformation and strengthen the socialist economic components in the process of constantly changing the five economic components in the direction of expanding the state-run economic sector and the socialist collective economic sector and allowing a necessary private economic component to remain.

The transformation and changing of the nature of the market and the strengthening of market management along the lines of expanding socialist trade as well as banking and financial activities are aimed at controlling the sources of goods and money, eliminating the influence of the bourgeoisie and private traders in the market, and placing the market within the planned economy.

These two tasks are closely related and interactive. Consolidating the central role of planning is meant to create a firm basis for applying market relations, and, conversely, strengthening market management is meant to expand the scope and influence of the socialist market, satisfactorily control the unorganized market (the "free" market), and create conditions for applying market relations in the right direction and with high efficiency.

To consolidate and develop the central role of planning it is necessary to entirely renovate planning work. Regarding this, the documents of the fifth party congress set forth the general orientation that "it is necessary to make sure that all managerial echelons at the central, local, and grassroots levels truly master the plans by making real efforts to formulate, balance, defend, and implement their plans, and that plans must be built from the grassroots level and thoroughly conform with the principles of economic accounting and socialist business."

The congress documents also pointed out: "Each planning level must bring into full play its initiative, versatility, and sharpness as well as the entrepreneurial spirit as Lenin put it; overcome the habit of dependence and inactivity; and extricate itself from the self-supplied and self-sufficiency workstyle that is limited to a small scope. We must expand the market at home and abroad and, on this basis, exploit the capability and develop the strong points of every level, accelerate the capital investment cycle, and expand the division of labor, specialization, and cooperativization so as to stimulate the development of production."

This is a very basic guideline set forth by the congress for applying even more satisfactorily market relations in planning work.

Thus, a pressing task at present is to divide the responsibilities in economic management. Responsibilities must be clearly assigned within the system that directs the national economy in order to promote the right to mastery, enhance the initiative and the sense of responsibility of the localities and basic units, and, at the same time, meet the requirement for centralized management by the central level. It is necessary to revise economic policies and incentives, especially prices, wages, money, and so forth, and to adopt a clearcut financial line on the front of distribution and circulation.

Efforts must continue to be made to renovate planning work to establish a new planning mechanism suitable to the new managerial mechanism.

We assert that the new planning mechanism that replaces the old bureaucratic and subsidy-based planning mechanism must respect the principle of centralism while expanding democracy, pay attention to the observance of legal norms as well as to the use of economic incentives, develop the initiative and creativity of localities and basic units while setting stringent requirements for discipline and responsibility, constantly strengthen the socialist economic components while guiding private and family economic establishments to operate in accordance with the state plan, and direct the various sectors, echelons, and establishments to take the initiative in formulating their plans by balancing the materials obtained from "the four sources of supplies." The state must try its best to provide materials for production by fully exploiting and making use of local sources of raw material through cooperation and coordination among the various sectors, localities, and establishments, as well as by relying on export and import.

In planning work, it is necessary to appropriately define the scope for direct planning and firmly grasp the light of key products and the system of legal norms in force. Managerial rules must ensure that the various sectors, localities, and basic units can develop their initiatives satisfactorily and that the central government can control the key aspects of the economy.

At the same time, it is necessary to strengthen indirect planning measures in order to develop the indirect impact satisfactorily for stimulating production and construction at the grassroots level through the use of market relations both at home and abroad.

Market relations must be broadly applied in the various sectors, echelons, and units as well as in the relations concerning the production and exchange of products and services, with the principle of "reciprocal obligation" being observed by the parties concerned. This is meant to replace the relations of bureaucratic and subsidy-based management with market relations. Thus, awards and material incentives will be given if good-quality products are turned out at low costs and delivered on schedule.

Concerning basic units of the collective economic sector such as agricultural cooperatives, the state will assign legal norms for the sale of agricultural products on the basis of the amount of state materials and commodities supplied under two-way economic contracts. Reality has testified that two-way economic contracts play a very important role in planning work.

In formulating plans, it is necessary to closely link the material plan with the value plan. The material plan is the core that reflects the capability for meeting demands on the market, and the value plan serves to assess the effectiveness of planning and to compare the results achieved against the expenses that incur.

The application of market relations here is designed to grasp even more firmly the demands of society (including both the demands for production and the demands for consumption), gear production firmly to consumption, and ensure a balance between production and consumption. A system of incentives must be invented to constantly improve product quality through the market, especially the quality of export commodities.

It is necessary to use the plan as a foundation and follow its orientation in order to apply market relations in economic management and planning even more satisfactorily. All policies and incentives must be revised and constantly supplemented to meet the new situation; ensure the correct combination of the three economic interests; enhance the actual effectiveness of the state plan; guarantee both the central government's centralized leadership and the broadening of the right of economic establishments, localities, and the various sectors to take initiatives in production and business; and, together with planning and other components of the economic management system, form a management strategy suitable to the situation and characteristics of our country.

The application of market relations in the first stage of the transition period must be inevitably linked with market management in order to gradually establish and consolidate the role of the socialist market and develop the leading role of organized market; this is truly a factor that supplements planning in the process of social reproduction.

This is currently a pressing issue because in our country at present, the market is the main battleground of the class struggle and the struggle between the socialist and capitalist roads. Continuing to carry out socialist transformation and struggling to control the market constitutes one of the urgent measures that must be taken to establish a new socialist order on the front of distribution and circulation, contribute to stepping up production, stabilize the people's life, and bring about a turn for the better in the socioeconomic situation.

Our country's market at present has the following noteworthy characteristics:

- All commercial products turned out by the five economic components in the south and the three economic components in the north are exchanged on the market. In reality, there is smooth circulation among these economic components throughout the country. However, with its monopolistic control over foreign trade and some key marketable agricultural products, the state directs market relations at home and abroad. The state is now in control of key economic sectors, important economic establishments, and strategic materials, and it is capable of controlling an important amount of commodities with which to control and influence the domestic market.
- Supply and demand are in serious imbalance, and social production still cannot meet the essential demands of the people's life, of the undertaking to build the material-technical bases of socialism, and of the effort to consolidate national defense.
- Prices are fluctuating, and money is not balanced against commodities.
- The organized market has not yet been strengthened, and the unorganized market is claiming a fairly large percentage of transactions while being under the influence of the bourgeoisie and private traders.
- The enemy is taking advantage of our difficulties to sabotage us in the field of production and circulation, especially in both the domestic and foreign market.

Therefore, right in the process of formulating plans, attention must be given to market management with a view to applying market relations in economic management and planning to ensure the consolidation and development of the organized market and to overcome the tendency to curtail the development of socialist trade and allow private trade to "flourish" in an unorganized manner in a bid to stimulate production with the "competition" for profits, which is in reality an overrating of the effectiveness of the market mechanism.

A very important matter at present is that we must fully realize the importance of the struggle between the socialist and capitalist roads in the transition period, which can be felt most strongly on the front of transformation combined with construction and production reorganization and on the front of distribution and circulation.

It is necessary to overcome the current state of economic management in which the capitalist and private economic components are allowed to develop without control by the state-run trade sector, thereby disrupting socioeconomic order and weakening the leading role of planning.

In applying market relations in economic management and planning, we must avoid the tendency to revert to the "inflexible and rigid" mechanism of bureaucratic and subsidy-based management as well as the tendency to neglect the use of planning as the central link of the economic management system and as the key instrument for combining the development of the planned economy with the application of commodities-money relations and market relations in economic management and planning. It is also necessary to avoid the tendency to overrate the law of value and consider it as the law that regulates or helps regulate the socialist economy, which only promotes the market mechanism and weakens the role of planning.

The front of distribution and circulation is now the breeding ground for erroneous viewpoints and deviant practices that make planning work difficult and render the state incapable of controlling the sources of goods, firmly controlling the flow of money, carrying distribution according to plan, and controlling the market and prices. In other words, there now exists the right-leaning tendency of slackening the dictatorship of the proletariat in economic management and planning.

The development of the effectiveness of planning in market management first of all must be reflected in the ability of the state, by planning and through the use of other tools, to control production as well as the distribution and circulation of goods and consumption. The state must control the sources of goods and money, satisfactorily control export and import activities while using production as the base, work out plans to develop the key economic sectors, vigorously develop the state-run and socialist collective economies in suitable forms for each locality and each period of time, and correctly utilize other economic components and diversified economic forms such as family economy, private services, garden economy, and so on in order to create an all-round impetus for satisfactorily using manpower, land, and other resources in the process of socialist construction.

The plans formulated by state-run production establishments must ensure correct implementation of the system of socialist economic management and closely link production plans with product delivery plans in strict accordance with the state policy.

For the collective, private, and individual economic establishments, the plans must include direct and indirect measures aimed at gradually enabling the state to gain monopoly over grain, marketable agricultural products of high value, and goods destined for export, and to control the products turned out by the peasants and handcraftsmen through two-way contracts so as to bring the production and circulation of their goods under the state plan.

Price planning must be regarded as a very important part of the state planning system. Through price planning, we can gradually stabilize prices, oppose the tendency to run after prices on the free market, and prevent the bourgeoisie and private traders from illegal practices of speculation and price manipulation. This task, which has long been neglected in the state plan, must now be given more attention and carried out with intensified efforts so as to link planning with economic accounting and socialist business methods.

Also by using planning as the primary tool, we must rapidly expand and qualitatively improve the socialist trade system and combine its operation with the activities of other socialist collective organizations such as production collectives, production cooperatives, credit cooperatives, and so forth to form the core force in the struggle to control the market, ensure the central role of planning in the economic management system, and apply market relations in a correct manner.

By satisfactorily carrying out the tasks concerning market management -- primarily by controlling the sources of goods and money and satisfactorily supervising the expansion of export-import activities -- we will be able to care for the life of cadres, workers, state employees, members of the Armed Forces, and the laboring people and to gradually realize the principle of to each according to his work. Planning must have the effect of enhancing the responsibility and broadening the initiative of the various localities and basic units in meeting the diverse demands of the people's life in each locality while ensuring that all sources of accumulating capital are mobilized to allow central government to step up the construction of key products in support of industrialization and that all strategic products are reserved for planned distribution by the central government to meet the national demands.

These are the pressing tasks concerning planning that are emphasized in the various resolutions of the party, especially in the resolution of the fourth plenum of the party Central Committee (fifth tenure), and that must be carried out satisfactorily to ensure that planning will firmly retain and develop its central role in the management system and to guarantee the success of socialism in the fierce struggle between the socialist and capitalist roads in our country in the new stage.

PREVENTION, CONTROL OF FOREST FIRES URGED

BK151130 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Every year when the dry season arrives, fires frequently occur in almost all areas where forests are located. The main reasons for forest fires are that various echelons and sectors have not yet really taken the initiative to provide regular guidance for the implementation of various resolutions on the prevention and control of forest fires, that the forestry sector has not yet held high its sense of responsibility and has not yet planned any coordination with other sectors in the prevention and control of forest fires, and that the forestry sector does not have a strong enough material and technical base nor does it have sufficient cadres specialized in the prevention and control of forest fires. To take the initiative in actively carrying out the prevention and control of forest fires during the yearly dry season, the chairman of the Council of Ministers has urged various echelons and sectors to promptly carry out the following tasks:

-- Step up widespread propaganda and indoctrination activities to make everyone fully aware of the position and the great utility of forests in all respects and of the consequences of forest fires so that they can improve their sense of responsibility for the prevention of forest fires and can participate in the control of forest fires and in forest protection.

-- Link the prevention and control of forest fires with the reorganization of agricultural and forestry production and with the movements to promote settled farming and settled life and to assign forests and forest lands.

-- Uphold the responsibilities of various forestry units and the people's collective mastery in forest management and protection.

-- Set up and strengthen all forest-fire control departments at various echelons and ensure their effective operation during the dry season.

-- Prepare plans for the prevention and control of forest fires for every echelon from the grassroots level upward, especially for those key forest areas susceptible to fire.

The Ministries of Forestry and Interior must increase their inspection and provide guidance for patrol activities during the dry season.

Those provinces, villages, cooperatives, units, and individuals with good achievements in the prevention and control of forest fires will be appropriately commended and rewarded.

Units or individuals causing a forest fire will be dealt with appropriately depending upon the degree of the offense and will be demanded to compensate for the damage and to reforest the burnt-out area.

Anyone causing a forest fire with serious consequences will be lawfully prosecuted.

AUSTRALIASCHOLES REASSURES U.S., UK ON WARSHIP VISITS

BK151059 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] The minister for defense, Mr Scholes, has telephoned his British and American counterparts to reassure them about Australia's policy toward visits by allied warships. The calls to Britain's defense secretary, Mr Heseltine, and the American secretary of defense, Mr Weinberger, covered the ways in which the existing Australian guidelines could be developed to take into account special requirements for drydocking. They followed controversy arising from reports that the British aircraft carrier, Invincible, had been refused drydocking facilities in Sydney because British authorities would not say if it was carrying nuclear weapons.

The foreign minister, Mr Hayden, telephoned the American secretary of state, Mr Shultz, in Madrid on Tuesday to assure him that the incident would have no implications for visits by American ships out of the ANZUS alliance.

Interviewed on commercial radio today, the prime minister, Mr Hawke, said the understandable position of Britain and the United States had traditionally been neither to confirm nor deny if nuclear explosives were on their visiting ships. He said Australia respected that position. Mr Hawke said talks were now under way at departmental level with the United States and Britain on the application of Australia's policy for future visits.

Hawke on Handling of Issue

BK151105 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Mr Scholes later had lunch on board the Invincible and then blamed federal opposition and news media for worrying Australia's allies.

In Adelaide, the prime minister, Mr Hawke, said the handling of the Invincible issue was all right now. He said the position was that no ship could go into drydock with significant explosives on board.

In the Senate, the opposition kept up its attack over the banning of the Invincible from drydock with Senator Durack describing the situation as a serious threat to the ANZUS alliance between Australia, New Zealand, and the United States.

HAWKE WARNS OF INTERNATIONAL REACTION TO RAID

BK151128 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Hawke, said there could be international repercussions in the publication of the names of security agents who took part in the failed exercise at Melbourne Sheraton Hotel 2 weeks ago. Mr Hawke said the publication of the names of the agents was just not on. He said there could be international repercussions in naming, perhaps, two or three of the agents -- members of the Australian Secret Intelligence Service.

In the Senate, the attorney general, Senator Evans, also urged for confidentiality in providing the names of the agents to Victorian police. The Victorian police had sought the names of the men involved to charge them over alleged criminal offenses relating to the incident.

MALAYSIAMAHATHIR, SUHARTO TO REVIEW TRADE RELATIONS

BK151112 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Malaysia and Indonesia have agreed to review the performance of their 1973 trade agreement. This was decided at a meeting in Kuala Lumpur between Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed and the visiting President Suharto of Indonesia. The two countries will examine the agreement to see whether it has benefitted or obstructed bilateral trade. The secretary general of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Tan Sri Zakaria Ali, told this to newsmen after the meeting.

The two leaders held their first round of talks yesterday soon after President Suharto's arrival for a 2-day working visit. The meeting went into the second round this morning.

The trade agreement is aimed at widening and increasing the volume of trade between the two countries, and to reduce unnecessary competition in marketing their respective products. Tan Sri Zakaria said the two leaders also discussed intra-island shipping problems facing Malaysia and Indonesia, and stressed the need to exchange information to see how the problems could be resolved. Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir also emphasized the need to coordinate industrial development programs between the two countries. The move will ensure greater success for mutual benefit. The two leaders said that close cooperation between Kuala Lumpur and Jakarta has yielded positive results. One such example is the formation of the association of tin producing countries, in which both countries are founder members.

President Suharto assured the republic's cooperation in the petroleum industry. Indonesia will keep in touch with Malaysia on OPEC's stand on petroleum matters. In addition, there will be closer relations between Pertamina and Petronas. Touching on international issues, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir and the Indonesian leader reaffirmed their commitment on the Kampuchean issue. They said efforts to find a solution for that country should be continued. The two leaders also welcomed the forthcoming independence of Brunei and its entry into ASEAN. President Suharto left for home this afternoon.

ROYAL ASSENT GIVEN TO 1983 AMENDMENT BILL

BK151213 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] His royal highness the timbalan yang dipertuan agung [deputy paramount ruler] has given the royal assent to the 1983 constitutional amendment bill. His royal highness signed the bill at Istana Negara this afternoon after receiving advice from the government. Deputy prime minister Datuk Musa Hitam said today is the last day for the bill to be signed and gazetted as required by the process of law in regard to amendments to the new election constituency [word indistinct].

Datuk Musa told newsmen in Kuala Lumpur this evening that the bill is being gazetted as an act with immediate effect. He explained that the consent was given based on mutual understanding and agreement between the government and the rulers. According to Datuk Musa, the rulers have accepted the formula forwarded by UMNO [United Malays National Organization]. The agreement is based on two major factors relating to Article 66/5 of the [words indistinct] Constitution regarding royal assent on bills passed by parliament and Article 150 relating to the proclamation of emergency and [word indistinct] eight of the Constitution. Datuk Musa said the government on its part will keep its promises to the rulers to amend the amendments that are being gazetted. The special parliament session will be held next month to table the proposed amendment. The deputy prime minister described the new development as maturity of the Malaysian political system and the sense of responsibility among leaders and the people. In this context, Datuk Musa said the new development represents a victory for all concerned.

MARCOS CALLS FOR NEW VOTERS REGISTRATION

BK160648 Hong Kong AFP 1 English 0549 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] Manila, Dec 16 (AFP) -- President Ferdinand Marcos today directed the National Assembly to approve a law for a new voters registration all over the Philippines as a means to ensure clean and honest National Assembly elections next year.

The president, in a speech in the summer resort of Baguio City, formally agreed to the proposal of business community spokesman Victor Barrios that businessmen would fork over the 100 million pesos (72,000 dollars) funding for the registration. The government had earlier hedged on opposition demands to purge the voters lists of "flying voters and dead people" because it was too expensive.

The National Assembly, completely dominated by the ruling KPL [New Society Party] party, is expected to act within the next few days on the president's directive. So far the democratic opposition has made no formal stand on whether it will participate in the May 1984 elections. Purging of the voters (?lists) was one of the opposition conditions for participation.

In the first National Assembly elections in 1978, the ruling KPL party virtually scored a clean sweep all over the country and in Manila whitewashed the opposition for 21 seats in the assembly. Opposition candidates, led by assassinated ex-Senator Benigno Aquino, charged that the polls were massively rigged. Mr. Aquino was murdered August 21 after he had ended three years of self-imposed exile in the United States.

Batasan To Seek Decree

HK160452 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Leaders of the ruling Kilusang Bagong Lipunan are scheduled to meet at this time. They are later expected to formally petition to president to issue a new decree for a new registration of voters.

Earlier, the president ordered a new registration of all voters. He also accepted the offer of private businessmen to put up 100 million pesos to cover the expenses of the undertaking. The president also directed Deputy Prime Minister Jose Rono to meet the businessmen, the opposition, and the Commission on Elections on the registration program. The president announced acceptance of the offer made for the businessmen by Victor Barros of the Businessmen's Conference of the Philippines, in a speech in Baguio City.

Meantime the Commission on Elections is now preparing the necessary forms, or particularly, the ballots, that will be used in the forthcoming plebiscite.

DEFENSE CHIEF DENIES RUMORS OF QUARREL WITH VER

HK160048 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Civilian authority reigns supreme over the military. Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile stressed this Wednesday night as he denied on television rumors of a quarrel between him and Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fabian Ver. Enrile replied to a question regarding the defense chief's relations with Gen Ver, citing even widespread rumors that there is friction between the two defense officials.

**General Urges Cooperation**

HK160052 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fabian Ver underscored the need to strengthen civilian-military cooperation to boost the government's counterinsurgency Oplan Katatagan program. In another occasion in Camp Crame, Quezon City, Lieutenant General Fidel Ramos, Armed Forces vice chief of staff and PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] chief, rallied the civilian and military officials in the national capital region to work hand-in-hand to attain the country's twin goal of security and development.

Speaking before a multisectoral group in Iloilo City, Ver said there is a need for all of us to galvanize our best efforts to effectively steer the course of the new republic toward lasting peace, stability, and progress.

Gen Ramos urged Metro Manila officials and law-enforcement officers to build up what he called a national team that must not be accomodating and tolerant to those doing things detrimental to the team.

**AQUINO INQUIRY BOARD SCHEDULES WITNESSES**

OWI51337 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Butz Aquino, younger brother of the slain former Senator Benigno Aquino, Jr., is scheduled to testify tomorrow before the Agrava factfinding board. Next week, Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile will also appear before the board. Public Coordinator Bienvenido Tan confirmed these two developments today; and Jose Carlos has this update.

[Begin recording] Butz Aquino was reportedly conferring with his lawyers the whole day today to prepare for his testimony tomorrow. Butz Aquino has informed media men recently that he has 11 witnesses to the Aquino assassination.

Former Senator Salvador Laurel meantime has also been subpoenaed to appear this week. However, he asked the board to reschedule him due to other important commitments in the provinces.

At today's resumption of the public hearing, Lieutenant (Ibar Padao) testified that members of the Bravo and Charlie Teams which he headed did not see the actual shooting of the former senator. (Padao) said he as well as the 14 members of teams Bravo and Charlie were tasked to secure the tail end of the China Airlines plane bearing Aquino.

When they heard shots, they immediately took defensive positions preventing them to see how Aquino was shot and the alleged assassin Rolando Galman killed by security men. He told the board that one of his men fired a shot on August 21st. However, paraffin tests conducted by the NBI [National Bureau of Investigation] showed that one of them, Airman (Jose Muiko) was positive for gun powder residues. (Padao) said it was possible this was due to the fact that on 20 August his men had firing exercises.

For the first time, Board Commissioner Ernesto Herrera bared the presence of a black car at the tarmac on the right-wing portion of the plane at the time of the shooting. It was not known what this black car was doing during that time. Lt (Padao) could not confirm the presence of this vehicle, although the section where that car was parked was under his jurisdiction.

Another witness at today's public hearing was Captain Romeo Bautista, director of AVSECOM [Aviation Security Command] Intelligence. He was head of the so-called (Implain Masid) which took care of covert intelligence operations of the Manila International Airport in connection with the arrival of the former senator. Bautista said he had 3 teams composed of 20 men, most of whom were unarmed. The first team, he said, was posted at the aerobridge of Gate 8, and two members of that team were positioned at the door of China Airlines plane, namely Sergeants Miranda and (Danao).

Tomorrow Capt Bautista will continue his testimony and will also be cross-examined by private lawyers.

#### Butz Refuses To Testify

OW160909 Hong Kong AFP in English 0834 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] Manila, Dec 16 (AFP) -- Wild cheers arose as the brother of slain former Senator Benigno Aquino today refused to testify before investigators and said he doubted the government's ability to protect witnesses of the assassination after its failure to protect his brother.

Agapito Aquino, 45, said he was declining to give testimony to an inquiry board for the same reasons his brother, President Ferdinand Marcos' arch political rival, had declined to participate in any body created by Mr Marcos.

"My brother, in his lifetime, had consistently refused to honor special courts created by the present regime to try him even on matters where these courts were given the power of life and death over him. I share that sentiment deeply," he said, still standing after refusing to be seated following his oath-taking. The audience in the packed hall wildly applauded and the public counsel refused to question Mr Aquino in deference to his stand. The lawyer assisting the government security witnesses, Leo Jimenez, also declined but for a different reason. "I am not giving Mr Aquino recognition because he is not entitle to it," he said.

Expressing doubt as to the legality of his information, which he said had come from "witnesses" to the assassination, Mr. Aquino said he "could not in conscience reveal the names of his witnesses" and expose them to danger. He said some 11 people had told him that soldiers killed his brother on August 21 at Manila airport. Board General Counsel Andres Navasa said the witnesses could testify in secret. To the delight of the audience, Mr Aquino replied that he would try to convince the witnesses to appear but that "it is the government guarantee that the witnesses are fearful about." He also pointed out a similarity among all of the government witnesses so far: "At the most critical part...incredibly all happened to look in another direction. This tells me these employees of the government themselves do not give much credence to the government's assurance of protection."

Meanwhile, security intelligence chief Captain Romeo Bautista testified that one of two intelligence men (?who were) near the scene during the assassination went down the emergency stairway behind the Aquino party. Sergeant Filomeno Miranda "did not see the actual shooting of ex-Senator Aquino," Capt. Bautista said to the audible disbelief of the audience. Sgt. Miranda was photographed prone behind a wheel of the passenger tube near the stariway shortly after the murder.

The other agent, Sergeant Armando de la Cruz, was at the door of the tube and immediately went inside after he heard a shot, Capt. Bautista said. Lieutenant Jesus Castro, leader of the boarding party, was reportedly with him and helped him close the door.

The captain said that 19 intelligence men were posted at the terminal's departure and arrival area. Five others were posted at the passenger tube of Gate 8, where the victim's plane docked. Sgt. Miranda was formerly with the anti-riot unit of the Air Force attached to the Presidential Security Command (PSC), which prompted Lupino Lazaro, counsel of the family of the alleged gunman, to ask if the intelligence plan was carried out with the help of the PSC. Capt. Bautista said the PSC was never asked to assist them.

Mr Lazaro pointed out that alleged assassin Rolando Galman, who was swiftly gunned down by the military personnel escorting Mr Aquino, was reported by the military to have entered the tarmac with a PSC identification tag while clad in an airport maintenance personnel uniform.

#### CENTRAL BANK REPORTS INCREASED RESERVES

HK160059 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 15 Dec 83

[Text] Central Bank Governor Jaime Laya yesterday said the country's international reserves have gone up to \$800 million, the highest since October, when the country called for a 90-day moratorium on foreign loans. In a press briefing, Laya said the increase resulted from the heavy export receipts, gold production from the country's goldmines, and the \$80 million facility recently approved by the World Bank. Also expected to boost the international reserves are a \$50 million dollar loan from the Asian Development Bank, and another \$17 million representing the balance of the country's structural adjustment loan from the World Bank. Laya said the two loans are expected to be disbursed before the end of the year and add to the country's reserves.

#### SEARCH FOR JOBS FOR DISPLACED WORKERS INTENSIFIES

HK160457 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Excerpts] The Labor Ministry has intensified efforts to provide jobs for displaced workers. It has expanded its network of job exchanges nationwide to help those laid-off workers find new jobs. Labor Minister Blas Ople said the job exchange program seeks to match available manpower in a given area or industry with vacant jobs in different parts of the country. Implemented only recently, the program has already been effective in the agricultural sector, where workers have been transferred from one plantation to another. He said that the program will now be applied in the industrial sector, where a good many electronic companies are expanding. Ople expressed the hope that the program will not only ease unemployment but will also meet the manpower demands of industries as well as the country's manpower exports.

The labor chief said that while there may be some retrenchment in some industries catering to the domestic market, the picture is not as bleak as the chronic pessimists foresee it. [Begin Ople recording] The outlook for the export sector is very bright. We are speaking of electronics and garments. With the American recovery, there is a base, and [words indistinct] new economic boom. The most disadvantaged will be the domestic industries depending on imported raw materials and spare parts, but even in this respect I think the Ministry of Trade and Industry is preparing a set of countermeasures in order to prevent any market dislocation in that sector. [End recording]

The unemployment figure this coming year will increase because of several factors. TUCP [Trade Union Congress of the Philippines] President Demokrito Mendoza said among the factors is the additional young people entering the labor market. He said there are 600,000 young workers joining the labor force annually.

CORRESPONDENTS PROTEST HARASSMENT OF AFP MAN

0W161033 Hong Kong AFP in English 0830 GMT 16 Dec 83

[Text] Manila, Dec 16 (AFP) -- The Foreign Correspondents Association of the Philippines [FOCAP] has strongly protested the harassment of an AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE correspondent and asked President Ferdinand Marcos to remedy "an unacceptable situation."

The protest was conveyed in a letter to Mr Marcos dated December 14 by FOCAP President Gabino Tabunar, who said that the harassment was a violation of Manila AFP correspondent Roberto Coloma's rights and "represents a danger to his person."

Mr Abunar said the FOCAP endorsed a December 7 letter by AFP Manila Bureau Chief Teodoro Benigno to Information Minister Gregorio Cendana, protesting the treatment of the 24-year-old Mr Coloma.

In five documented instances between November 24 and December 9, Mr Coloma was shadowed at night by at least three men in a car. The incidents began less than two months after he was arrested by the military who later called it a mistake.

The men drove alternately alongside, in front, and in back of Mr Coloma's car and "their intention was to harass, to frighten and probably to scare the wits out of the AFP correspondent," Mr Benigno said.

His letter said that since the military admitted "it has absolutely no shred of solid evidence" to link Mr Coloma to subversion, it was possible his harassment was "a signal to other Filipinos working for the foreign press."

This was an allusion to frequent and severe government criticism of foreign press reporting of recent events in the Philippines after the August 21 assassination of opposition leader Benigno Aquino.

The military arrested Mr Coloma on September 30 and held him for four hours in a suburban camp on charges of "sedition and inciting to sedition." Military authorities later said it was a case of mistaken identity.

The Foreign Correspondents Association of the Philippines also strongly protested the arrest of Mr Coloma and asked that the preventive detention action (PDA) order against him be revoked or lifted. Under a PDA order anybody can be detained indefinitely without formal court charges.

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